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Last Shipping day, Wednesday, the 25th instant, after which no Cargo will be received on board.
THOMAS BLACK, Superintendent.
P. & O. S. N. Company's Office,
Bombay, 20th February, 1863.
N.B.—Parcels will not be received in this Office under any circumstances after 1 P.M., on Wednesday, the 25th instant.
Shippers of Cargo on the Company's Black Bills of Lading are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of these Bills of Lading with reference to the transhipment and forwarding of Cargo, with a view to the adequateness of their Insurance Policies in respect of the same.

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Last Shipping day, Thursday, the 26th instant. No brokerage will be allowed on any Chest of Opium, not in the Ship on 26th instant.
THOMAS BLACK, Superintendent.
P. & O. S. N. Company's Office,
Bombay, 18th February, 1863.
N.B.—It is necessary that Bills of Lading and Receipts should be in Office by noon of Saturday, the 28th instant.
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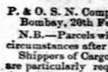

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Bombay, 24th February 1863.

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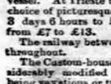
FOR SURAT.



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NOTICE.—The Elphinstone Land and Press Company's Tug Steamer PEHLWAN, 70 tons, 60 H. P. not being at present required is available for to wing or other purposes. For particulars apply to
W. NICOL & Co.

NOTICE.—A lighter, loaded with 48 Barrels of Gingelly Oil, marked P. B. & Co., was upset in the harbour on the 19th instant, and should any of the said Barrels be picked up on the coast, we shall feel obliged if the authorities on the spot will communicate with us on the subject.
RENNIE, SCOVELL & Co.
Bombay, 21st February 1863.

THE Ship-chandlers and persons willing to tender for the repairs and furniture of the French Ship *Washington*, are informed that on Thursday 26th, at twelve o'clock, such offers will be received at the Consulate of France, where they may apply for all particulars.

WE have, on the 1st February, established a branch of our Firm at Havre, under the style of S. TYABJEE & Co.
S. TYABJEE & Co.

PURSUANT to a DECREE of the High Court of Chancery, made in the Matter of JOSEPH HARRIS, late of the Victoria Club, Hanover Square, in the County of Middlesex, and of No. 14, Carlton Road, Maida Vale in the same County, a Lieutenant General in Her Majesty's Indian Army deceased, and a Cause Collum v. Vivesath.
The Creditors of the said JOSEPH HARRIS who died in or about the month of July, 1861, are by their Solicitors on or before the 27th day of May, 1863, to come in and prove their claims at the Chambers of the Master of the Rolls in the Rolls Yard, Chancery Lane, Middlesex, England, or in default thereof, they will be peremptorily excluded from the benefit of the said Decree.
Tuesday, the 2nd day of June, 1863, at 12 o'clock at noon, at the said Chambers, is appointed for hearing and adjudicating upon the claims.
Dated this 23rd day of December 1862.

THE BOMBAY STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.—NOTICE is hereby given, that the Directors of the above Company are prepared to distribute on and after the first day of March next, the realized assets of the Company amongst the Shareholders in accordance with the 57th Clause of the Deed of Settlement.
Dividends can only be paid to the Registered Shareholders or their properly constituted Attorneys.
Persons who claim to be entitled, but whose names do not appear on the Register must at once apply to be registered to the undersigned at the Office of Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart & Co.
By order of the Directors of the B. S. N. Company,
NUSSERWANJEE BAHDURJEE.
Bombay, 31st January, 1863.

THE COORLA SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANY (LIMITED).—NOTICE.—The usual Half Yearly Meeting of the Shareholders of this Company will be held at the Office of Messrs. B. & A. Hormusjee, at 5 P.M. on SATURDAY, the 28th February, 1863, to receive the Report of the Directors for the past half year, and to consider a proposal, that in honor of the memory of the late Bomonjee Hormusjee, Esq., the name of the Company for the future be "The Bomonjee Hormusjee Coorla Spinning and Weaving Company (Limited)."
By order of the Board of Directors,
W. COOPER, Chairman.
Bombay, Feb. 10th, 1863.

THE BOMBAY ROYAL SPINNING AND WEAVING COMPANY, LIMITED.

મુંબઇ રાઅલ કાપડીનીંગ એંડ વીવીંગ કુંપની લીમીટેડ.

NOTICE—TENTH & ELEVENTH CALL EACH OF Rs. 200 PER SHARE. The Shareholders of the Company are requested to pay into the Mercantile Bank of India, London and China, the Tenth Call of Rs. 200 per share on or before the 14th day of February 1863 ; and the Eleventh Call of Rs. 200 per share on or before the 16th day of March 1863 ; after which respective dates, Interest at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum will be charged on all over-due Calls, and the shares will become liable to forfeiture.
The Bank Officers will receive the amount of the above mentioned Calls only from persons producing the Scrip Certificates issued by the Company, certifying the payment of all the previous Calls, and only in the name of the holder of such Certificates.
By order of the Board of Directors,
SHAPOORJEE FRAMJEE,
Acting Secretary.
Company's Office, No. 25 Medow Street.
Bombay, 8th January 1863.
P. S.—Such of the Shareholders who have as yet not paid the Arrears of Calls and have not yet applied for Share-Certificates, are requested to do so without any further delay.
S. F. Acting Secretary.

BRITISH HOTEL.

ADVERTISEMENT.—The Proprietors of the late "British Hotel" having closed their business, take this opportunity respectfully to offer their grateful acknowledgments to the Public and Gentry of Boubay, and Outstations, for the kind support and patronage bestowed upon them for the time they conducted their late Establishment, and at the same time to solicit the favor, that such of their supporters as have bills still left unsettled with them will oblige them with an early remittance to enable them to finally close the accounts.
PESTONJEE SORABJEE & Co.
British Hotel, Lane, Fort, 1st Dec. 1862.

THEATRE ROYAL, GRANT ROAD.

FIFTH APPEARANCE THIS SEASON
of
MISS EMMA GRATTAN,
AND
SECOND APPEARANCE OF MR. F. BURY.

FRIDAY EVENING THE 27TH FEB.,
Will be produced for the first time, with new Scenery and Dresses, the admired nautical Drama in two Acts entitled,
BLACK EY'D SUSAN.
To be followed by the Screaming farce of
HOW TO SETTLE ACCOUNTS WITH YOUR LAUNDRESS.

Tickets to be had at the Theatre between the hours of 10 A.M. and 5 P.M. Also at the Offices of the *Bombay Gazette* and the *Times of India*.
Tickets only available for the day for which they are issued.

STEREOSCOPIC APPARATUS.—The undersigned have just unpacked several Sets of Apparatus for Stereoscopic Pictures. Each Set consists of,
BINOCULAR Camera of finest Mahogany suited for both Landscapes and Portraits with all the most recent improvements,
FOCUSSING SCREEN DARK SLIDE, &c.
A PAIR OF ROSS'S PORTRAIT LENSES.
A PAIR OF ROSS'S LANDSCAPE LENSES.
A Water tight BATH in Mahogany Case.
A strong OAK PRINTING FRAME.
Two STEREOSCOPIC PLATE BOXES.
A folding CAMERA STAND.
The whole of the above fitted neatly and compactly into Fine Travelling Case with Lock and Key, Rs. 350, net cash.
SETS OF APPARATUS similar to the above but with Lefebure's Lenses instead of Ross's, Rs. 200 nett cash.
McCOMBIE & WRIGHT.

For Sale.

FOR SALE.—EX-PALE OR YELLOW BAR Soap, at Rupees one per Bar.
McCOMBIE & WRIGHT.

FOR SALE.—Just received a few PHOTOGRAPHIC VIEWS of the Neilgherries, Coonoor, and Wellington. Also a few of the Hill Tribes, such as Kotas, Korumbas, and Todas, men and females.
A few copies of Sir Charles Trevelyan. Apply to Jewajee Ruttonjee Sons, Apollo Street, Fort, Bombay.

FOR SALE.—On or about the 12th of March next, will be sold by Public Auction, with the Consent of the Trustees, the following Property belonging to the Estate of the late Rustomjee Nowrojee Adamson.
The Buildings and Land No. 8, situated on Bellasis Road, Byculla.
Bungalow and Out Offices with the Ground No. 11.
For particulars, apply to
JEWUNBAEE, Executrix to the Estate.
The × Mark of
JEEWUNBAYE WIDOW.
Bombay, Race Course, 2nd Feb. 1863.

VALUABLE PROPERTY FOR SALE.—TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE CONTRACT, the Property at Khandalla belonging to S. ADAMSON, Esquire, consisting of Bungalows, Out-buildings, Stabling, Coach-house, and extensive Ground, &c.
The Property which occupies about ten acres of ground is situated on the best site in the Station and commands views of the Railway Incline, the Ghaut range, Matheran, an extensive view of the Conkun, and is open to direct sea-breeze.
The Garden is well-stocked with trees, shrubs, and plants, and there is also a very productive kitchen garden, a good carriage drive runs from the Mail Road through the grounds, to the Bungalow, which is distant about one and-a-half mi

Commercial.

BOMBAY DAILY BILL, SHARE, STOCK, AND FREIGHT LIST.

BOMBAY GAZETTE OFFICE,
Thursday, 26th February 1863.

EXCHANGE.

On What Place.	Terms.	Rates.
London Banks	6 months' sight	2s. 1d.
Do. Credits	Do. do.	2s. 1d.
Do. Documents	Do. do.	2s. 1 3/16d.to 2s.1¼d.
Calcutta	At sight	99½
Madras	30 days' sight	99
China	60 Do. do.	218 per $100

SHARES.

Names.	Paid up.	Last Half-yearly Dividend.	Rates.
BANKS.	Rs.		[ex divd.
Agra Bank	500	5 per ct.	39 per ct. pm.
Bombay Bank	1,000	1¼ do.	93 ex divd.
Central Bank	250	2½ do.	6 Prem.
Commercial Bank	500	3 do.	2½ prem.
Chartered Bank of India, A. & China	200	2½ do.	15 prem.
Chartered Mercantile Bank of India London and China	250	5 do.	93 prem.
Oriental Bank Corporation	250	8 do.	125 prem.
Madras Bank	1,000	4½ do.	75 prem.
PRESS COS.			
Apollo Press Co	11,000	1,800 per share.	Rs. 22,000 p.sh.
Colaba Press Co	2,700	300 do.	Rs. 6,250 p.sh.
Hydraulic Press Co.	4,000	300 per share	Rs 250 dis. nom.
Elphinstone Land & Press Co	6,000	225 per share	Rs 4,800 p.sh. pm
RAILWAY COS.			
G. I. P. Railway Co. Consolidated Stock	218 3-0	per ct.	Rs. 4 disct.
Do. New £50 shares	130.14.0	2½ do.	Rs. 8 disct.
Bombay Baroda & C. I. R. Co	1,000	2½ do.	Nominal.
SPINNING & WEAVING COS.			
Bombay Spinning & Weaving Co.	5,000	1,000 per share.	Par.
Great Eastern Spinning & Weaving Co.	1,100	.....	Rs. 400 disct.
Manockjee Petit Spinning & Weaving Co	55	.....	Rs. 200 disct.
Oriental Spinning & Weaving Co.	2,500	450 Rs. p. share.	Rs 75 to 100 pm.
Royal Spinning and Weaving Co.	1,500	.....	Rs. 400 disct.
Victoria Spinning Co.	5,000	.....	Rs. 200 disct.
Bombay United Spinning & Weaving Co	4,500	.....	Ditto.
Jafar Aleo Spinning and Weaving Company, Limited	125	.....	Ditto.
Coorla Spinning Co.	5,000	.....	
Bombay S. N. Co.	500	32 per share	Rs. 100 per sh.
Colaba Land Co.	10,000	Rs. 100	Rs 16,000.
Thistle Mill Co.	4,000	.....	Rs. 300 disct.

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Four Per Cent. Transfer Loan	96
Loan 1835-36	95¾
Loan 1842-43	95¾
Loan 1854-55	95¾
New Five per Cent. Loan	105¾
Five and a Half Per Cent. Loan	112¾

PRICES OF BULLION, &c.

Sovereigns, each	Rs. 10-4½
Bank of England Notes	„ 10-3
Spanish Dollars	„ 249
Carolus	„ 299
Mexican Dollars	„ 235
German Crowns	„ 213
Five Franc Pieces	„ 205
Bar Silver	„ 105½ to 106¼
Gold Leaf	„ 16-7

FREIGHTS.

To Liverpool (Cotton)	£3 15s.	0d. to £4 5s. 0d.
„ (Seed)	£3 0s.	0d.
To London (Cotton)	£3 10s.	0d. Nominal.
„ (Seed)	£3 0s.	0d. to £3 2s. 6d.
To China.		
To Clyde.		No enquiry.
To Hull		
To Calcutta and back	Rs. 29 offered.	

(PRICES CURRENT (25th February 1863.)

		Per candy.
COTTON at Colaba:		
Old Broach, ready	Rs.	405 to 410
Old Surat	„	410 to 415
Old Dhollera, and Bhownuggur	„	415 to 425
New Oomrawuttee	„	418 to 420
Old Comptah	„	425 to 430
Old Dharwar Sawginned	„	545 to 550
New Barsee, and Nuggur	„	425 to 450
New Vazarat	„	445 to 446
New Khandeish	„	420 to 422
Old Pondicherry	„	399 to 400
New Accota	„	428 to 430
New Manglore	„	445 to 446
OPIUM—Malwa, Rs. 1,600 to 1,605.		
SEEDS—Linseed, Khandeish ...at Rs.		6-8 to 6-9 per cwt.
Rapeseed, Guzerat ...	„	6-8 to 6-10
Gingelly mixed (Black and White)	„	32 to 33
Niger	„	37 to 38
	„	26 to 27

SAMUEL SMITH'S ANNUAL COTTON CIRCULAR.

11, MANCHESTER BUILDINGS,
LIVERPOOL, 1*st February* 1863.

During the greater part of the month of January the tone of the Cotton market has been one of dulness and depression, relieved only by one or two sudden outbursts of speculative excitement of very brief duration. The year closed with middling Orleans at 24½d, and fair Dhollera Surat at 17½; the large excess discovered in our stock, coincidently with the arrival of an unusually heavy import, having checked the strong upward tendency previously prevailing and caused a decline of fully ½ per lb. The immediate effect, however, was very transient, for upon the resumption of business, after the usual New Year's holiday a decidedly firmer feeling was apparent; and, as the Arabia's news to hand on the morning of Saturday the 3rd, indicated the President's firm determination to pursue unflinchingly his policy of subjugation, buying was resumed with spirit, both by the trade and speculators, and prices at once recovered the decline, bringing middling Orleans back to 25d, and fair Dhollerah to 18d. The activity continued on Monday; but the market in Manchester not responding to our advance so fully as had been expected, spinners again withdrew, and speculators, now extremely sensitive to the action of the trade, immediately followed suit, so that before the close of the week the market had relapsed into dulness, and the whole of the advance was against the holders.

This depression was further increased by the Scotia's advices, received on the 12th. At a meeting of the Democratic party in New York, presided over by the Hon. James Brooke resolutions strongly condemnatory of the Lincoln administration had been passed, and a convention demanded, to which all the States should be invited, to deliberate on terms of amicable adjustment, with the Proclamation, in the interim of an armistice. On the same time whispers of European mediation were again heard. In some quarters these were regarded as symptomatic of an early termination of the war, and although those best acquainted with the real state of parties and of public feeling in the North, insisted strongly that all such hopes were delusive—for whilst the Democrats were desirous of peace, they, no less than the Republicans, made the restoration of the Union a *sine qua non*; yet at the present high currency, our market is so extremely sensitive to the faintest prospect of peace, that business was almost suspended, and prices gave way another ¼d per lb. fair Dhollerah and Oomrawattee being sold freely 17¼d, some few parcels changing hands at 17d.

But within two days another violent revulsion of feeling occurred. On the evening of the 13th the "Etna" arrived, bringing word of the actual issue of the President's Proclamation, indicating the States and parts of States considered in rebellion, and declaring all the slaves within those limits at once and for ever free. This news as once revived in all their vigour the old controversies and probable effects of the Proclamation—one section of the public regarding it as a mere *brutum fulmen*, the vengeful result of disappointed malice, and indicating a conviction in the Washington Cabinet that the separation of the States was final and irreparable—whilst another, and perhaps a growing party in this country, hailed it as the actual dawn of freedom to the slaves. In commercial circles, however, it was generally felt that its inevitable tendency was to widen rather than to heal the breach between the two sections, by inflaming still more the bitter hatred of the South, and that, if operative at all as regards the slaves in the interior, it could only be by superadding to existing evils the horrors of servile insurrection, in which the whole of the Cotton in the States would be liable to destruction. Under the influence of these views, a large and excited demand at once sprung up, the sales on the 14th reaching 20,000 bales, and the decline of the previous week was recovered almost at one bound, placing Surats fully as high as at any period since the close of the great excitement in September last—say fair Dhollerah and Oomrawuttee 18½d. per lb.

The next morning a fog so dense as to render it almost impossible to fix a value on Cotton checked business, and gave time for the impetuosity of buyers to cool, and as with the first symptons of falling off in the demand holders became willing sellers, some weakness in prices was apparent; the announcement in the afternoon that the Bank Director had raised the rate of discount from three to four per cent. owing to large purchases of gold by the Bank of France, effectually stopped the speculative movement, and threw the market bank into dulness.

For the next ten days the business continued on a very limited scale, the sales averaging 3000 or 4000 per day, and though holders shewed no anxiety to force sales, yet with a very large supply offering, prices gradually dropped to the basis of 17¼d middling Orleans; Egyptians and Brazils, which were arriving freely, giving way fully 1d in the same time. At these rates the market was kept pretty steady for several days, waiting advices from India, which, as they were in response to rapidly advancing prices on this side, were expected to show some decided improvement; Manchester, however, exhibited less firmness, and spinners restricted their purchases to the utmost. On the 28th the Asia arrived (two days late); her political and military advices were not of such importance, but owing to the issue of another 100 million dollars of inconvertible paper, the premium on gold had risen to 48, and bankers' bills of exchange to 163. This was regarded in some quarters as the immediate precurser of that terrible collapse of Northern finance so long predicted as inevitable, and produced a general feeling of uneasiness. About one p.m. the telegraph announced another rise of one per cent. in the Bank rate, placing the minimum at 5 per cent.; this greatly alarmed the commercial community, for though such a step had been generally regarded as probable at no distant day, from the large amount of capital absorbed by the numerous joint stock companies recently launched, yet it was supposed to indicate some urgent necessity in the position of the Bank, and to be the herald of still greater financial pressure. In addition to these causes of disquiet, there was published in the *Moniteur*, the text of a note, addressed on the 9th by the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, to their Ambassador at Washington, urging on the Northern Government a policy of conciliation, and the opening of direct negotiations with the Southern leaders; and though under other circumstances but little weight would have been attached to such a proposal, concurring with the above mentioned causes it materially added to the depression.

The prospects of our market continue inseparably connected with those of the American war. In military movements, during the past month, the balance of success still remains with the South, the decided repulse of the Federals at Vicksburg, and the brilliant recapture of Galveston, more than outweighing the victory gained by the North under Rosencranz, at Murfreesburgh; still the advantage is not sufficiently decided to influence materially the ultimate fortunes of war, or to bring its conclusion visibly nearer. Jefferson Davis in his annual message to the Confederate Congress, expresses an ardent desire for peace, but utterly repudiates all terms short of an absolute recognition of their independence; whilst at the North, though the two great parties are widely at issue as to the policy of emancipation, they are unanimous as to the paramount necessity of restoring the Union. This being the temper of the contending sections, the French projects of conciliation stands a very poor chance of acceptance; and there now seems nothing to stop the way, but sheer exhaustion of the combatants, or, mediation having failed, the adoption of more active measures of intervention on the part of European nations.

If then the war go on, as the bulk of our supplies cannot be received until the latter half of the year, there must come a time in the next few months when our stocks being run down to a very low point, it will be easy for speculators to obtain control of the market, and force prices extravagantly high. In the meanwhile, however, the supply on sale is very large, and in addition to the temporary causes enumerated above, which have affected our market during the last few days the dulness of trade in Manchester weighs heavily upon us, and until there is a decided revival of demand for manufactured goods, it seems very doubtful from the last month's experience, whether the trade will allow any advance here beyond 18d. for fair Dhollera, whilst every penny decline from that point will be likely to bring in a fresh stream of demand.

Under this combination of adverse influences, the market the last three days, has been almost in a state of panic, Surats having given way ½d to ¾d in the better grades, and fully 1d in the lower, whilst the eagerness to sell long staples has been so great that a decline of 1½d per lb. has had to be accepted to forces sales in American and Egyptian Cotton. Fair Dhollerah have been down as low as 16¾d, fair Egyptian at 22d, and middling American 21d to 22d.

The consumption throughout the month has probably not varied materially from our estimate on the 1st instant, viz. 29,000 bales per week.

Import of Cotton into Liverpool to 30th Jan.

	American.	East India.	Brazil, Egyptian, &c.	Total.
1863..	2,000	50,000	50,000	102,000
1862..	3,000	44,000	23,000	70,000
Increase of Import this year				32,000

Export of Cotton from Liverpool and Outports to 30th Jan.

	American.	East India.	Brazil, Egyptian, &c.	Total.
1863..	2,000	15,000	2,000	19,000
1862..	25,000	11,000	.....	36,000
Decrease of Export this year				170,000

Stock of Cotton in Liverpool 30th Jan.

	American.	East India.	Brazil, Egyptian, &c.	Total.
1863..	66,000	24,000	93,000	105,000
1862..	217,000	284,000	45,000	516,000
Decrease of Stock this year				140,000

Import into Havre. Deliveries from Havre. Stock in Havre.

25th Jan. 1863	.....	.....	24,000
„ 1862	.....	.....	118,000

Deliveries for Consumption from Liverpool to 30th Jan.

	American.	East India.	Brazil, Egyptian, &c.	Total.
1863..	4,000	49,000	16,000	69,000
1862..	40,000	55,000	14,000	109,000
Decrease of Delivery this year				40,000

Average weekly delivery for Consumption from Liverpool to 30th Jan.

	American.	East India.	Brazil, Egyptian, &c.	Total.
1863..	1,000	17,300	4,000	17,300
1862..	10,000	13,600	3,800	27,400
Decrease of Weekly delivery this year				10,100

Estimated Real Consumption of Great Britain at this date

	American.	East India.	Brazil, Egyptian, &c.	Total
1863..	1,000	14,500	4,500	20,000
1862..	12,000	14,000	4,000	30,000

Cotton afloat for Liverpool 30th Jan.

	American.	East India.	
1863	Nil	1863	138,000
1862	Nil	1862	111,000

Quotations for Cotton, 31st Jan.

	Ordinary.	Middling.	1863. Fair.
Orleans, American	20	22½	26
Mobile, American	20	22	25
Uplands, American	20	21½	24
Ginned Dharwar, Surat	...	...	18½
Broach, Surat	...	...	17½
Dholleral, Surat	...	...	17½
Oomrawuttee, Surat	...	...	17
Compta, Surat	...	...	16
Bernam	...	...	22½
Egyptian	...	...	22½
	Ordinary.	Middling.	1862. Fair.
Orleans, American	11	12	14¼
Mobile, American	11	12½	13½
Uplands, American	10½	12½	13½
Ginned Dharwar, Surat.	...	...	10
Broach, Surat	...	...	9
Dholleral, Surat	...	...	8¼
Oomrawuttee, Surat	...	...	8
Comptah, Surat	...	...	7½
Pernam	...	...	13½
Egyptian	...	...	13½

POSTSCRIPT FOR INDIA.—2ND FEBRUARY, P.M.—On Saturday, at the close of business, more cheerful views prevailed as to the course of our money market, and prices were more regular. To-day, advices from Bombay to 12th January, quoting an advance on Piece Goods of from 4 to 8 annas have further strengthened the marked, and with sales of 6,000 bales, prices of Surat are fully ¼d. above the low sales at the close of the week.

Fair Dhollerah being now worth 17d. The trade demand throughout the month has been chiefly in Dhollerah Cotton, the better grades of which are far from plentiful, and command comparatively high rates, whilst the lower descriptions are much neglected, and almost unsaleable. In Cotton "to arrive," the transactions during January have been on a trifling scale, and prices have not varied much from those current on the spot.

Banks.

CHARTERED MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LONDON, AND CHINA.

EXCHANGE.

THE Bank grants Drafts on London, and on Scotland and Ireland, also Circular Notes negotiable in Egypt, Syria, and the principal Towns of Europe, at the following current rates of Exchange:—

On London, at 6 months' sight	.....	2s. 0¾d.	per Rupee.
Rs. 4	do.	..... 2s. 0¾d.	„
„ 3	do.	..... 2s. 0¾d.	„
„ 2	do.	..... 2s. 0¾d.	„
„ 1	do.	..... 2s. 0d.	„
„ On demand		..... 1s. 11½d.	„
On Scotland	do.	..... 1s. 11½d.	„
On Ireland	do.	..... 1s. 11½d.	„
Circular Notes for the use of Travellers on the Continent and to Europe, Overland, at 1 day's sight...			1s. 11½d. „

Drafts at 6 months' sight are not granted for less than £50 and amounts under £20 are only drawn for payable on demand.

The Bank also purchases Bills and grants Drafts payable in Calcutta, Madras, Ceylon, Hongkong, Canton, Shanghai, Singapore, Penang, and Mauritius.

Bills collected at any of the above places at an uniform charge including postages, of one per cent.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Accounts	2 per cent.
Deposits for 3 months	3 „
Do. do. 6 do.	4 „
Do. do. 12 do.	6 „

No interest allowed on Current Account Balances under Rs. 1,000 on or over Rs. 50,000 unless by special agreement No cheques paid or cash received under Rs. 20.

COMMISSION.

The Bank takes charge of Government Securities, Shares in Banks and other Companies, without charge, and realizes Interest and Dividends thereon on the following terms:—

If to be remitted in the Bank's Drafts, without charge.

If to be paid in India, a Commission will be charged of ¼ per cent.

On returning Government Paper, or Share Certificates out of safe custody, or when sold on paying the proceeds of such sale in India, a commission, will be charged of ¼ per cent. But if proceeds are remitted on the Bank's Drafts, without charge.

Commission charged on purchase and sale of Government Securities and Shares ¼ per cent.

R. D. PREBLE,
Bombay, 19th Jan. 1863. Acting Agent.

CENTRAL BANK OF WESTERN INDIA.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

ON Current Deposit Accounts above Rs. 1,000, and not exceeding Rs. 50,000, repayable on demand, at 2 per cent per annum.

On Deposits for 3 months certain 3 per cent per annum.
Do. „ 6 „ „ 5 „ „
Do. „ 12 „ „ 6 „ „

EXCHANGE.

Bills on London, at 6 months' sight 2s. 0¼d. per Rupee.
Ditto at 4 ditto 2s. 0¼d. do.
Ditto at 3 ditto 2s. 0¼d. do.
Ditto at 2 ditto 2s. 0¼d. do.
Ditto at 1 ditto 2s. 0d. do.
Ditto sight ditto 1s. 11½d. do.

Drafts at 6 months' sight are not granted for less than £50 and amounts under £20 are only drawn for payable on demand.

COMMISSION.

On the sale or purchase of Government and other Securities 5 per cent. on the amount realised or invested.

The Bank receives Government and other Securities for safe custody, free of charge, the Interest or Dividends thereon being credited to account or remitted home in the Bank's Bills, also without charge.

On Interest, or Dividends, or on proceeds of Sacurities by Sale, ¼ per cent. commission charged, if the amounts be paid in India, if remitted home by the Bank, no commission charged.

On returning Securities out of safe custody ¼ per cent. Commission

Hours of business ..... 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.
Saturdays ..... 10 A.M. to 1 P.M.

EDWIN HEYCOCK,
Bombay, 31st January 1863. Manage.

COMPTOIR D'ESCOMPTE DE PARIS.

Incorporated by National Decrees of 7th and 8th March 1848, and by Imperial Decree of 20th July 1854.

PAID-UP CAPITAL—Francs 40,000,000 (£1,600,000.)
RESERVE FUND—Francs 8,350,000 (£334,000.)
Head Office—14, *Rue Bergère, Paris.*
Agencies at Bombay, Calcutta, Shanghai, and Bourbon (Réunion).

London Bankers.
UNION BANK OF LONDON; MESSRS. C. J. HAMBRO AND SON.

BOMBAY AGENCY.
Offices—23, *Rampart Row.*

THIS Agency grants Drafts and Letters of Credit, and purchases or collects Bills on the abovementioned places; as also on the principal Towns of Continental Europe, on Madras, Pondichéry, Kurrachee, Ceylon, Mauritius, Singapore, Hongkong, Sydney and Melbourne.

EXCHANGE.

Drafts granted as follows:—
On London 6 months' sight ..... 2s. 0¼d. per Rp.
3 Do. Do. ..... 2s. 0¼d. „
On Demand Do. ..... 1s. 11½d. „
On France 6 months' sight ..... frs. 2-57 cts. „
3 Do. Do. ..... „ 2-54 „ „
On Demand ..... „ 2-51 „ „

DEPOSITS.

Interest at 2 per cent. per annum allowed on Current Deposits when not less than Rs. 1000, nor exceeding Rs. 50,000, for fixed periods as may be specially arranged.

DISCOUNTS, LOANS, &c.

The Agency discounts approved Local Bills, grants Loans on Government Paper, Bullion, Bank Stock, and approved Shares and other Securities.

Any further information as to rates of business, &c. may be had at the Office, or on application by letter to the undersigned, to whom all remittances should be made payable.

T. R. R. DAVISON, Acting Manager.
Bombay, 1st February 1863.

THE BANK OF HINDUSTAN, CHINA, AND JAPAN, (LIMITED.)

CAPITAL ONE MILLION STERLING, IN 10,000 SHARES OF £100 EACH.
Head Office—16, *Cornhill, London.*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.
Chairman.
AMES NUGENT DANIELL, Esq.
Deputy-Chairman.
RICHARD SPOONER, Esq., (late Commissioner of Customs, Bombay.
WILLIAM FREDERICK BARING, Esq.
THOMAS COTTERELL, Esq.
J. HENRY REYNELL DE CASTRO, Esq.
PHILIP SHORE FLETCHER, Esq.
WILLIAM HARRISON, Esq.
DEANE J. HOARE, Esq.
HENRY YOUNG, Esq., (late Chief Secretary to the Government, Bombay.)

Bankers.
LONDON.....The Alliance Bank of London & Liverpool, (Limited,) 5, Lothbury.
LIVERPOOL .....The Alliance Bank of London & Liverpool, (Limited.) "The Albany."

The Bombay Branch has been opened for business in the premises lately occupied by the Bank of Bombay.

The Bank purchases drafts on London or Liverpool at the following rates of Exchange:

At 6 months' sight	.....	2s.	0¼d. per Rupee.
4	do.	..... 2s.	0¼d. do.
3	do.	..... 2s.	0¼d. do.
2	do.	..... 2s.	0¼d. do.
1	do.	..... 2s.	do.
On demand		..... 1s.	11¼d. do.

To prevent disappointment to persons at a distance who may purchase the Bank's Bills on Europe, the Manager will, whenever so desired, forward this first of exchange direct on being furnished with the name and address of the person to whom the Bill is to be sent. *In all instances where a Bill is required in favor of a lady, her Christian name must be given in full.*

The Bank is prepared to negociate drafts payable in London or Liverpool, and will also purchase or grant Bills payable in Calcutta.

CURRENT ACCOUNTS.

Interest allowed at 2 per cent. per annum on balances exceeding Rs. 500 and not more than 50,000, and 1 per cent. per annum on balances exceeding Rs. 300 and not more than Rs. 500.

Interest is not allowed on balances of more than Rs. 50,000 except by special arrangement.

FIXED DEPOSITS.

Subject to 12 months' notice of withdrawal 6 per cent per annum.
do. 9 do. do. 5½ do. do.
do. 6 do. do. 5 do. do.
do. 4 do. do. 4½ do. do.
do. 3 do. do. 4 do. do.
do. 1 do. do. 3 do. do.

Notice of withdrawal may be given either when the money is deposited or at any future time, if the deposit be taken in the Bank's draft on Europe, the notice of withdrawal will *generally* be dispensed with.

The Bank reserves to itself the right of paying off or of modifying the terms of Fixed Deposits, on giving one month's notice

Government Paper and other Securities received for safe custody, and the interest remitted by the Bank's draft free of charge.

The Bank will procure enfacement of Government Paper on account of Constituents, and forward the same to the Head Office without charge.

It is particularly requested that all orders or Hoondees may be made payable to, and all communications addressed "*The Manager, Bank of Hindustan, (Limited,) Bombay.*"

R. E. W. BAKER,
Rampart Row, 20th January 1863. Manager.

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER.
Office—No. 20, Threadneedle St., London.
Paid-up Capital—£644,000.
London Bankers, { The Bank of England. / The City Bank.
Branches and Agencies at
Bombay, Calcutta, Singapore, Hongkong, and Shanghai.

BOMBAY AGENCY.

EXCHANGE.

THE Bank's Agency in Bombay grants Bills of Exchange on THE CITY BANK, London, at the following rates viz.:—

6 month's sight (not under £50) at 2s. 0¾d. per Rupee.
4 Do. ..... at 2s. 0¾d. „
3 Do. ..... at 2s. 0¾d. „
2 Do. ..... at 2s. 0¾d. „
1 Do. ..... at 2s. 0¾d. „
Sight ..... at 2s. 0d. „

DEPOSITS.

Interest is allowed on CURRENT ACCOUNTS at 2 per cent. per annum, on the daily balance, and, and on FIXED Deposits, as follows:—

Repayable in one sum, at 3 months' notice, 3 per cent.
Do. 6 do. 5 „
Do. 12 do. 6 „

No Interest allowed on Current Account Balances under Rs. 1,000 nor on Deposits above Rs. 50,000, unless by special arrangement.

REMITTANCE.

The Bank's Agency undertakes to realise Drafts or Hoondies on the Presidency without charge, for remittance to Europe in the Bank's Bills on the City Bank, London.

All Drafts, or Hoondies, forwarded for realisation, to be made payable to the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China, or order.

COMMISSION.

On the sale or purchase of Government Paper, Bank Stock and other Securities ¼ per cent. on the amount realised or invested.

The Bank receives Government and other Securities for safe custody, free of charge, the Interest or Dividends thereon being credited to account, or remitted home in the Bank's Bills, also without charge.

On Interest, or Dividends, or on proceeds of Securities by sale ¼ per cent. commission charged, if the amounts be paid in India; if remitted home by the Bank, no commission charged.

On returning Securities out of safe custody, ¼ per cent commission.

Hours of business ..... 10 to 4 o'clock.
Saturdays ..... 10 to 1 do.

ROBERT ANGUS, Manager.
Bombay, 31st January 1863.

ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION.

BOMBAY AGENCY.

EXCHANGE.

THE CORPORATION grant Drafts on London on demand, and at from one day to six months' sight, and Drafts on Scotland and Ireland on demand; also Circular Notes negotiable in Egypt, Syria, the Continent of Europe, New York, the West Indies, Australia, New Zealand, and the Cape of Good Hope.

The Current rates of Exchange are:—

On London at 6 months' sight	.....	2s.	0¾d. per Rupee.
„ ¼	do.	..... 2s.	0¾d. do.
„ 3	do.	..... 2s.	0¾d. do.
„ 2	do.	..... 2s.	0¾d. do.
„ 1	do.	..... 2s.	0d. do.
„ on demand		.....	
On Scotland	do.	.....	1s. 11½d. do.
On Ireland	do.	.....	
On Paris, at 3 days' sight		.....	1s. 11½d. do.
Circular Notes payable throughout Europe.			1s. 11½d. do.

No Drafts at six months' sight are granted for sums under £50. Sums under £20 are only drawn for on demand.

Drafts are also granted on Calcutta, Madras, Ceylon, Hongkong, Singapore, Mauritius, Melbourne, and Sydney.

The Corporation purchase or collect Bills payable in Europe or in Calcutta, Madras, Ceylon, Hongkong, Singapore, Mauritius, Melbourne, and Sydney.

DEPOSITS.

The Corporation receive Depo its on the following terms:—

Repayable on demand, in sums of Rs. 100 and upwards ..... 2 per ct. per annum.
Do. in one sum, at 3 months' notice ..... 3 „
Do. do. 6 do. ..... 4 „
Do. do. 12 do. ..... 5 „

No interest allowed on Deposits under Rs. 1,000, nor on deposits over Rs. 50,000, *unless by special arrangement.*

REMITTANCE.

The Corporation undertake to remit money to Europe by each Overland Mail free of charge.

Parties are requested to make all Orders or Hoondies payable to "*The Oriental Bank Corporation or Order,*" and to state distinctly the name and address of the person to whom the Remittance is to be made. *(if to a Lady, her Christian name or names in full,)* and the sight at which the Bills are to be drawn.

COMMISSION.

The rate of Commission charged by this Agency on the purchase or sale of Government Securities negotiable in Bombay, is ¼ per cent. on the amount invested or realized, and on the collection of Bills, one per cent. and Postage.

The Corporation take charge of Government Paper, Shares in the Bank of Bombay, and other local Stocks, free of all charges, and will draw Interests and Dividends on the same as they fall due, on the following terms:—

If to be remitted through the Corporation .....Without charge.
If to be paid in India, a Commission will be charged of ..... ¼ per cent.
On returning Government Paper out of safe custody ..... ¼ per cent.
Hours of business..... 10 to 4 o'clock.
Saturday ..... 10 to 1 do.

KURRACHEE SUB-AGENCY.

MESSRS. Finlay and Co. will grant Drafts on the Corporation and negotiate Bills payable in London and Bombay.

Bombay, 28th January 1863.

THE AGRA AND UNITED SERVICE BANK, (LIMITED.)

ESTABLISHED IN INDIA, 1833.
Incorporated by Royal Charter.

HEAD OFFICE..... LONDON.
BRANCHES AT CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, MADRAS, AGRA, LAHORE, KURRACHEE, UMRITSUR, SHANGHAI, HONG-KONG, EDINBURGH, and SYDNEY.
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL, £2,000,000 (TWO MILLIONS STERLING.)
PAID-UP CAPITAL, £1,000,000 (ONE MILLION STERLING.)
RESERVED FUND, £200,000 (TWENTY LAKS OF RUPEES.)

THE BOMBAY MANAGER of the AGRA AND U. S. BANK, (LIMITED,) is authorised to draw on the undermentioned Establishments:—

THE LONDON and WESTMINSTER BANK.
THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND (and Branches).
THE ROYAL BANK OF IRELAND (and Branches).
THE NATIONAL BANK OF IRELAND (and Branches).

The Bank grants Circular Notes negotiable in Egypt and the Continent of Europe. The following are the current rates of Exchange:—

On London at 6 months' sight	.....	2s. 0¼d.
„	4 months' sight	2s. 0¾d.
„	3 months' sight	2s. 0¾d.
„	2 months' sight	2s. 0¾d.
„	1 month's sight	2s.
„	On demand	
On Scotland	.....	1s. 11¾d.
On Ireland	.....	
Circular Notes	.....	1s. 11¾d.

The London General Manager will generally, if desired, be prepared to discount the Bank's Bills at the current rate of the day.

The Bank purchases Bills and grants Drafts payable at Calcutta, Agra, Madras, Lahore, Kurrachee, Umritsur, Hong-Kong, Shanghai, and Sydney.

INTEREST ALLOWED.

1. On Floating, or Current Deposits, payable on demand, of not less than Rs. 1,000 or more than Rs. 50,000, 2 per cent. per annum.

2. On fixed Deposits at 3 months' notice, 3 per cent. per annum.

3. On Fixed Deposits at 6 months' notice, 4 per cent. per annum.

4. On Fixed Deposits at 12 months' notice, 5 per cent. per annum.

Fixed Deposits may generally be availed of for the Bank's Bills on London without notice.

Notice of withdrawal can be given at the time of depositing the money, or at any time thereafter.

Interest is credited to Deposit accounts half-yearly.

No Interest allowed on Current Account Balances over Rs. 1,000 or over Rs. 50,000, unless by special agreement.

The Funds of all public Indian connected with the Services and of such other Societies as the Directors may consider eligible for the same privilege, will be received by the Bank at its highest rate of interest for the time being subject to modified conditions.

The Bank reserves to itself the right of paying off all interest Deposits, and of modifying the terms thereof, on giving one month's notice.

Parties making remittances to the Banks should specify distinctly the Account or Accounts to which the same are to be credited. *Accuracy in this respect is particularly desirable.*

COMMISSION.

The Bank takes charge of Government Securities, Shares in Banks and other Companies without charge, and realizes the Interest and Dividends, for which a charge will be made of ¼ per cent.

On returning Government Paper or other Securities out of safe custody, a charge will be made of ¼ per cent.

n the purchase or sale of Government Securities and Bank or other Stock, ¼ per cent.

Drafts granted as follows:—

On London	6 months' sight	2s.	0¾d. per Rupee.
„	4 do.	2s.	0¾d. do.
„	3 do.	2s.	0¾d. do.
„	2 do.	2s.	0¾d. do.
„	1 do.	2s.	0d. do.
„	On demand	1s.	11½d. do.
On France	6 months' sight	frs.	2-57 cts. „
„	3 do.	„	2-54 „ „
„	On demand	„	2-51 „ „

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The Funds of all

against the despotic exercise of power on the part of the executive is the power of stopping the supplies. But if the State has property of its own it can supply itself." The British power in India, *is* purely despotic. There never can be a representative Government while Britain rules. The first act of a *representative* plenipotentiary assembly would be to vote the British Government out of its domain, as the Greeks voted Otho out of Greece and the Italians the Pope out of Italy. *If stopping the supplies* would suffice *for that end*, they might indeed be satisfied with that. Happily however the British Government has a real property of its own in the soil of India which it obtained by conquest or succession from the Mahomedan and Hindoo rulers who were before its absolute proprietors. And although through their gross mismanagement the rents fall short of the expenses, good management may easily restore the equilibrium; and in the meantime the balance is realized on the estate itself, by the fortunate stamp duties, by a profitable if not very creditable traffic in connection with salt and opium, and a few other gainful items. So greatly has agriculture been depreciated that native capitalists would not buy the land, even at the nominal price at which Lord Canning offered it, of twenty years value of the mere fraction of the rent which the Government gets, unless they believed, whether correctly or incorrectly that they were to be free from all further demands on the part of the State. And if it were given to them for nothing, they would not be thereby rendered one whit more willing to contribute to the expenses of the British Government, than they are at present.

Such sublimities of practical ignorance of the character, circumstances and habits of the human bipeds inhabiting this world, are attainable only by learned Englishmen or Germans, who through long abstraction in book study, have achieved for themselves a state of speculative isolation from that common humanity which eats and drinks, buys and sells, and makes war either to hold its own or to get what pertains to others. But that the superlunar speculations regarding India we have been commenting on, should obtain acceptance in such a highly educated and enlightened section of the British public as that which is represented by *Blackwood's Magaine*, is disgraceful to the nation that owns and rules this great and populous land.

MANCHESTER is getting up an agitation against the Indian Council. At the Annual Meeting of the Chamber of Commerce of that city, held on the 26th January, every speaker was violent, if not strong, in his denunciation of that body. The President, Mr. Ashworth, said:—"They are incompetent for their duties." Mr. Cheetham went considerably beyond the President, and said:—"The inadequacy of India to meet the present crisis, rested mainly with the Indian board. The change made in the Government of that country was altogether a sham and a delusion. Fifteen of the very worst, most conceited, and most bigoted of the old East India Company were taken to form a new Council. Some strong effort should be made in the next session in the House of Commons to obtain a more enlightened system of Indian Government." Mr. Mason went still further, and professed to give expression to the opinion of all Manchester. He said:—

"The opinion of Manchester would be found to be that the present mode of governing India was scarcely any improvement at all upon the old East Indian mode. It was the same Government now under a new name. Would it not be better that some able member of Parliament should at the request of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, backed up by the public opinion of Manchester, introduce a bill for the reform of the Indian Government?" (Applause.) There was really nothing to expect from the present mode of government in the way of improvement in the supply or quality of Indian cotton. Several members of the Indian Council had not hesitated to say that India was not the place to which Lancashire must look for the supply of its raw material. Could it therefore be expected that their sympathies and labours and minds would be directed to what was the best way to improve the Indian staple? What was the use of the Indian Council? He could see no use at all; it was a great obstruction—(applause)—and it could override and subvert the deliberate acts and labours of the Government of India at Calcutta—men selected for their knowledge of Indian affairs. And when the result of their mature deliberations had been brought to this country for the purpose of receiving, as might be reasonably expected, the approbation of the Secretary of State for India, those acts of the Indian Council were rashly and hastily subverted. Ought not the council in London to be abolished, and the salaries of the sixteen men who sat there obstructing these matters saved to the nation at this particular time of great expenditure? (Loud applause.) Ought not India to be brought more directly, by means of a single Secretary of State, under the influence of the House of Commons? The fittest man in the House of Commons to take up and work out this great question was Mr. John Bright. If Mr. Bright were invited to do so by the strong vote of the Chamber of Commerce, no doubt he would give his services and talent to the question. It was sincerely to be hoped that on an early occasion the directors would take up the question, and would invite Mr. Bright to introduce a bill to abolish the present council in London, with the view of placing the dependencies of India under more direct control of the House of Commons, and of the country at large."

Now, we certainly cannot endorse what was said in the Manchester Chamber of Commerce respecting *the men* who compose the Indian Council—that they are 'incompetent,' 'the very worst, most conceited, and most bigoted of the old East India Company': we do, how ever, very cordially endorse what was said respecting the Indian Council as *a measure* for the Government of India. As a system of Government for India, we consider the Indian Council bad. The principle of it is too nearly the same as that of the old East India Company to be any real improvement upon it. We rejoiced in the Queen's Proclamation, in the transference of the Government of India from the Company to the Crown, because we believed that the principle and system of governing India by a Court of Directors in London would be entirely changed. The Court of Directors, however, has only been superseded by the Indian Council, while the principle and system of Government remain, to all intents and purposes, unchanged. Two things are required for the good Government of India; and we expected that both of these requirements would be supplied when the Government passed from the Company to the Crown. The good Government of India requires that India should be governed in India by properly constituted Supreme and local Governments. We have no fault to find with the Constitution of the existing Governments in India. They are composed of able men; men of great administrative talent and world-wide experience, and of great Indian knowledge and experience. The measures of the Supreme and local Governments are generally conceived in a wise and liberal spirit,—evincing a real knowledge of the wants of the country, and the desire and ability to supply these wants, on the part of its rulers. But although the Supreme and local Governments are properly constituted, they cannot be said to govern India. The government of the country is not really vested in them. It is vested in a Council in London; or rather, in an individual in London, who has never seen India. He possesses and exercises the power of thwarting those measures of Government which have been adopted in India by men intimately acquainted with the wants of India, and earnestly seeking her good. If good Government is secured under such a system, it must be by chance and in spite of the system. The good Government of British India, moreover, requires a closer connection between the people of the two countries, Britain and India: that is, that the Indian administration should be placed under more direct control of the popular branch of the British Parliament, the real seat of the National Government. India could be brought more directly under the influence of the House of Commons, in other words of the British people, by means of a single Secretary of State for India as the official medium of communication between the British Parliament and the Government in India. We certainly expected, as we have said, that the real government of India in India, and the placing of this government more directly under the influence of the House of Commons, would have resulted from the abolition of the Company's government and the substitution of that of the Crown. Our expectations have not yet been realized. We still believe, however, that their realization is a mere matter of time. The requirements for the good government of India that we have now stated must commend themselves to the reason and judgment of disinterested men of those who think that the people of India have interests and rights to be respected in the administration of the country, as well as the few foreigners connected with the country. We trust, therefore, that Manchester will get up a successful agitation for the reform of the Indian Government. There are other points that were dwelt upon by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce which we should like to notice.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

(By Electric Telegraph.)

MADRAS, *25th Feb.* 12-20 A.M.

Steamer *Bengal* sailed for Calcutta.

THE Viceroy left Agra for Muttra on Thursday.—*Mofussilite, Feb.* 20.

GENERAL WHEELER, C.B. will accompany the Viceroy to Muttra, Delhi and Meerut, at which station the camp is expected to arrive about the first week in March.—*Id.*

WE are informed that it is not improbable that the route of the Viceroy will be changed—namely that his Lordship and Lady Elgin will proceed with a small camp, from Meerut to Mussoorie, thence to Dugshaie, across the mountains, then, on to Simlah.—*Id.*

WE have advertised almost the entire river flotilla of the government for sale; and we have stated that we expect soon to do the same for their sea-going steamers. We may now add that we have heard that the government dock-yard at Kidderpore, with its docks and extensive works and buildings, will also be put up for public competition, and will be sold to the highest and best bidder. We are afraid to estimate the value of this public property; but we should think that, at any thing like a fair price, it would turn out immensely remunerative under the management of a private individual or a Company. In addition to the docks, workshops, &c., heretofore existing, government has just completed the addition and enclosure of a very large space of ground, where further accommodation for everything connected with building, docking, and repairing ships can be effected, and enterprises connected with these matters carried out to any extent.—*Englishman, Feb.* 17.

NEWS-LETTER.

POONA, *24th, Feb.* 1863.

THE Fusiliers who have been going, or 'going to go' for the last six months and more, have really gone at last, and now there is not one regiment in Poona that spent the monsoon here. Such are the changes of the world, or of the military world at least, 'moving' seems to be on the card with them, and how well and bravely they bear it! The officers and even the officers' wives dispose of their household goods and their carriages, and prepare for "the march" with cheerfulness, as the accepted position of their lot. They try to dispose of their kit to the best advantage, and live sometimes for weeks together in houses almost denuded of furniture, and they seem too much accustomed to this style of thing to grumble much thereat. These frequent removals, and their consequent selling off, and buying again in, must, however, be a heavy expense to them, and I wonder whether they receive any compensation for these compulsory flittings, or whether they have to bear all the outlay, as well as the inconveniences of the "Reliefs." If they have, their purses must be relieved in a rather unpleasant manner. The Fusiliers gave a Farewell Performance before they left, they play exceedingly well, and their talents have not been unappreciated here, for their theatrical fund is flourishing, and they have, I believe, cleared off some debt during their stay in Poona. The pieces chosen were "Helping Hands," a famous melodrama, in which the idiosyncrasies of the different characters are ably marked; and "A night at Notting Hill," an amusing light afterpiece, and they did them both justice. I do not know how it may fare with their theatre now, whether they may give any representations in Bombay, or whether the regiment is too much scattered for them to get a good company together. I do not remember to have heard of any performances on Colaba at the present time, concerting, and that you overwork the men so much with garrison duty that you take all "the go" out of them? Regiment al Theatres give a good deal of interesting, and perhaps elevating indoor employment to those engaged in getting them up, the painting of scenery, the preparation of dresses, the learning of parts, and the practising of songs and dances, all of which serve to relieve and agreeably fill up many an hour that might be worse spent, and do something towards developing and educating talents that would otherwise lie dormant. And if the pieces selected are of a health ful tone the audience have examples of honor, heroism, and self devotion held up before them, and the men more actively engaged in the performance may derive much virtuous benefit in the study of their parts. Let us hope that they take with them into their daily life some portion of the high and noble feelings that ought to pervade our Drama. I suppose the hot season will soon set in earnest here, for though the mornings are still cold there is often an unpleasant dry wind throughout the day, and the Thermometer gets towards 80° inside the house. We are obliged already to shut up windows and doors pretty early in the day, and I dare say the 33rd remembering the sea breeze which in Bombay tempers the hottest weather, will think that they have "jumped out of the frying-pan into the fire." However they had no option,—a cooling and consoling reflection under such circumstances.

Poona looks very barren and dry now, and the dust is almost intolerable. If you indulge in an evening drive you are compelled to take with it a plentiful dust bath—a thing more agreeable to feathered bypeds, than to those clothed in less enduring materials. It is a pity they do not water the roads but perhaps there is not sufficient of the limpid element to admit of such a proceeding. The water at the Bund is still pretty high, but with a densely populated city—as most Indian cities are said to be—and a large camp, I dare say there is not much more than will be wanted for the necessities of life before the next rains set in, and if that is the case we must dispense with the luxury of watered roads, and leave them for the delectation of the Bombay "ducks."

LOCAL.

THE mails for Cannanore and Galle per steamer *Australian* will be closed to-day at ten o'clock A.M.

THE mails for Galle and Maulmein, per steamer *Sydney* will be closed to-day at five o'clock P.M.

THE HONORABLE RUSTOMJEE JAMSETJEE JEJEEBHOY, on leaving Surat, presented a handsome amount of money to the commander, and crew of the steamer *Sir J. R. Carnac*, in which he crossed the bar of the river to embark on board the *Victoria*.

FIRE.—At about twelve o'clock on Tuesday night last, a fire broke out at Girgaum in the house of a Parvoo named Sokajee Munnajee, which was not extinguished until after the whole building was destroyed. It is supposed to have originated in a bed curtain having caught the flame of a lamp which was burning close by.

THE FIRE AT ARTHUR BUNDER.—We understand that great credit is due to the police for their prompt and efficient assistance at the Colaba Bunder yesterday, in getting the fire under, and thereby preventing the flames from extending to the destruction of a far greater quantity of cotton than was destroyed. It appears that upon the arrival of the Secretary of the Colaba Company the fire was well got under, and that the aid we allude to as that of the Bunder establishment consisted of Constables Bailey and Reilly and the police sepoys, who were thoroughly drenched to their skins, in their laudable exertions to extinguish the fire.

THE RETURN BALL.

THE Return Ball in honor of the Masons of Bombay took place on Tuesday evening, at the Town Hall. The Hall, as on the occasion of the Mason's Ball was tastefully decorated with flags and ensigns, which were festooned in a very neat and pretty manner, and with very fine effect. The Committee profiting by the experience of the Masons, wisely decided and arranged that the whole of the fine Hall should be available for dancing, and hung their decorations round the walls, instead of ornamenting the pillars as did the Masons. To say nothing of the additional space thus obtained for dancing, its effect was visible in the character of the air, and the fine appearance of the Hall. The decorations were most ably made, and reflect the highest credit upon the Committee for the taste and judgment displayed. The Hall was brilliantly illuminated by means of massive chandeliers and wall shades. At one end a temporary Orchestra was ingeniously erected and was occupied by a very good string band, of more than 20 performers, who did substantial justice in the course of the evening, while one division of the verandah, which had been divided in the centre, was occupied by the fine band of the 103rd Fusiliers; and the other half was devoted to refreshments. The dancing commenced at 9 o'clock and was kept up with rare spirit until after 4 o'clock on Wednesday morning, too late for an impartial report in our issue of yesterday. The supper was extremely good, and an abundant supply of every thing was to be had. The guests were wisely supplied with seats in the supper-room, instead of being compelled to add to the fatigue of the night by standing to supper, as at the Masonic Ball. The whole of the arrangements were so good that it would be invidious to single out any particular one for praise, and reflect the very highest credit on the Managing Committee and their indefatigable Secretary.

WEATHER REPORT.

At 9 hours of the 25th February 1863.

BROACH.—Fair and calm.
BULSAR.—Fair and cool. S.W. light.
KURRACHEE.—Fine, N.E.
SURAT.—Cool and fair.

GREAT INDIAN PENINSULA RAILWAY

OPEN 495¼ MILES.

Statement of Traffic, Week ending 15th Feb., 1863

COACHING.

Number of Passengers, 59,428.			
Amount	Rs. 32,264	5	6
MERCHANDIZE.			
Amount	,, 70,089	0	1
Total...	Rs. 102,353	5	7

Corresponding Week last year. Open 438 Miles.

COACHING.

Number of Passengers, 49,477.			
Amount	Rs. 25,573	4	1
MERCHANDIZE.			
Amount	,, 47,930	15	1
Total...	Rs. 73,504	3	2

BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE Council met pursuant to adjournment yesterday afternoon at two o'clock in the Durbar Room of the Town Hall, when there were present the Hon'ble W. E. Frere, Presiding, in the absence of His Excellency the Governor; the Hon'ble Messrs. J. D. Inverarity, A. Lewis (Advocate General), A. D. Robertson, H. L. Anderson, H. B. Pottinger, Jamsetjee Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, Premabhoy Hemabhoy, and M. H. Scott; Mr. Under-Secretary R. West, and Mr. Venayekrow Wassudev, Oriental Translator to Government.

The President said that the first subject for consideration was a bill for the re-incorporation and reconstitution of the Bank of Bombay, and the report of the select committee thereon.

The sections of the Bill were read *seriatim* and several amendments were made, after which it was resolved that the Bill be reprinted in its amended form, and presented at the next meeting of the Council.

The consideration of the following Bills was postponed.

A Bill for the Regulation of the District Police in the Presidency of Bombay.—Report of Select Committee to be considered.

A Bill for the Regulation of the Village Police.—Report of Select Committee to be considered.

A Bill to enable Magistrates to depute to Subordinate Magistrates power to try certain offences punishable under the Indian Penal Code.—Report of Select Committee to be considered.

A Bill to entrust Landholders with the charge of the Police within their respective lands.—Report of Select Committee to be considered.

A Bill to provide for the Management of the Vehar Water Works.—First Reading.

The Council then adjourned until Wednesday next at two P.M.

MUNICIPL COMMISSIONERS.

VEHAR WATER.—The inhabitants of Waddala, Naigaum, Sewree and Khaur having complained of a scarcity of water in their respective villages, and estimate having been furnished of the cost for laying a main for their supply, the following memorandum was forwarded to Government.

No. 27 of 1863.

Office of Consulting Engineer to Government for Bombay Water Works.

Bombay, 3rd February 1863.

MEMORANDUM.

A proposal for laying pipes to afford a supply of Vehar Water to the villages of Waddala, Naigaum, Sewree and Khaur, is submitted for the favourable consideration of Government.

2. The importance of supplying the villages has already been recognized and brought to notice by the Municipal Commission.

3. Mr. King's present proposal seems well calculated to meet the object on view. Its execution is recommended to sanction at an estimated cost, not exceeding Rs. 19,372-4-0.

4. It is requested that that accompanying plan and estimate may after disposal by the Secretary be returned to the office of the Officiating Consulting Engineer.

ROBERT MALCOLM, Major,
Deputy Consulting Engineer.

The Resolution of Government on the above is as follows:—

"The Municipal Commissioners should be asked whether they have any suggestions to make in reference to these proposals, which have been submitted with the view of complying with the applications made in some of the petitions forwarded with the recommendation.

The Clerk to the Commissioners replied to the foregoing Resolution to the effect, that as the complaint of scarcity of water experienced by the Petitioners appeared to be well founded, the Commissioners would recommend for the favourable consideration of Government the extension proposed to be made by the Deputy Consulting Engineer.

SUPPLY OF VEHAR WATER TO MALABAR HILL.—The consulting Engineer to Government has addressed a letter to the Municipal Commissioners upon the subject of the supply of Vehar water to Malabar Hill in which the following paragraph occurs:—

Para 2. "It is for consideration whether a line of pipes as therein proposed to branch off the main near Byculla station might not more generally useful it carried up the Bellasis Road and th ence by the house of Mr. Juggonath Sunkersett, so as to supply in passing the cotton mills at Tardeo and to enable hereafter, if necessary, a smaller branch to be laid from the cross road at Tardeo along the road to the Vellard."

The Commissioners in reply state that they approve of the project and consider the extension desirable, but prefer the route by the Bellasis Road for the branch main.

BURIAL GROUNDS.—Application has been made to the Commissioners by one Fakeer Abdoola Shah Fakeem to permit a plot of ground to be registered for purposes of interment, the situation is in Tank Street whereon stands a Persian Mosque, Hospital and Dhurrumsala. It appears that about seven months ago the police peons first refused to allow burials to take place there. The report of the Board's Surveyor is to the effect that the Musjid yard is covered with graves and that it would be very objectionable to permit any more, the Commissioners have unanimously resolved that further burials be prohibited.

THE WIDENING OF THE COLABA CAUSEWAY.—We publ ished in the *Bombay Gazette* of the 28th Jan., a letter from Mr. W. Tracey, the Clerk to the Municipal Commissioners, in which they requested, that Government would extend to them a grant of 35 feet of ground running parallel with the Colaba Causeway. The following is the Resolution of Government:—

RESOLUTION.—Copy of this letter from the Municipal Commissioners to be forwarded to the Public Works Department and the Collector, with reference to Government Resolution No. 61 dated 16th January 1863, and the Municipal Commissioners to be informed in reply, should there be objection on the part of Collector or Public Works Department, that Government will not object to grant them a strip of land sufficient to widen the road across the Causeway to 35, or even 40, feet between the pavements which should be laid down on each side of the road of from 13 to 15 feet wide each.

BOMBAY POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

FORT POLICE OFFICE.—24TH FEB. 1863.

(BEFORE N. W. OLIVER, ESQ.)

ALLEGED ROBBERY.—The following information was laid before the Magistrate by a Muccadum.

Mr. Khunderow Morojee for the complainant.
Dr. Reid for the defendant.

I am a Mookadum in the employ of Teeruthdass Roodvindram. I know the defendant; he is a Mookadum in employ of a Mooltanee named Jairamdass. One hundred and eleven bales of cotton came in a vessel named *Muddasaree*, Nacoda Cumbloo, from Kurrachee, about twelve days ago for the defendant; 50 bales of cotton also came for me in that vessel. About ten days ago I landed fifty bales among them were of the defendant's bales. The defendant landed his bales and among them were four of mine. Last Friday the defendant took his four bales from among mine as they bore his mark. I asked the defendant for my bales he said he had none of them, and last Saturday I saw a Seedee carrying one of my bales from the defendant's ground at Carnac Bunder. The defendant was present. I seized the bale and then the defendant ran away. The cover of one of my bales was found in the Hydraulic Press screws in the fort. This is my mark 111 & 1/4—7, in black Goozerattee figures and I also know the covering as the defendant had not the same covering to his bales of cotton. The bales belong to a constituent of mine named Teeruthdass Roovindram. The defendant first landed bales from the cotya, I saw him do so. I was not then aware that my four bales were among them. When I landed bales there were only fifty bales on board the cotya. The value of the four bales is 800 Rupees one of the bales is lying at my ground and other has been taken to the Mazagon Police office. The defendant said he would not pay me for these two bales that were missing, he did not tender payment. I charge defendant with dishonesty misappropriation of two docras of cotton the property of Teeruthdass Roovindram.

Cross-examined by Dr. Reid.—I did not see the defendant land his bales. I was in another cotya alongside. In the manifest there were 111 bales including bales of wool. I don't know how many bales of cotton the defendant had; a complaint was first made against me by the defendant that I had landed two of his bales and his complaint was that those two were missing to make up his one hundred and eleven bales. I told the police that he had landed one hundred and eleven. I admitted that I had two bales of his. I said at once I have got them. I have proof that the two bales that are missing were in his possession. This is the cover of one. I have no trace of the fourth. This cover is the only proof as regards the third bale. The mark, figures on this cover as far as I know were made in Kurrachee as all the other coverings of the other bales bear the same mark. There was a patch on the other bale which does not appear on this cover, but I cannot say from what part of this cover the patch has been removed.

The complainant then said that as the matter has been compromised, he wished to withdraw the charge.—*Charge withdrawn.*

It is the intention of the defendant to charge the complainant with malicious prosecution.

CORONER'S INQUEST.

ACCIDENTAL DEATH.—An Inquest was held before Dr. Reid, at Seton Lodge, Tardeo, yesterday, on the body of a young man named Babia Bapu, aged twenty years. From the evidence of one Esu Dhondu Mandawakur, it appeared that at about a quarter past seven o'clock on Tuesday morning, while going towards a well in the compound of the Manockjee Petty's Spinning and Weaving Company where he was employed, he saw deceased sitting on the steps, where he was bathing and suddenly missing sight of him, the attention of witness was at attracted to the appearance of bubbles rising on the surface of the water. Suspecting he was drowned, an alarm was raised, and a number of people were collected, but none would venture into the water. After searching for three quarters of an hour the body was recovered by one Heera Pasa. He was quite dead.

Verdict.—Accidentally drowned while bathing in a well.

L A W.

HIGH COURT.

List of Causes for Trials, this day.

BEFORE MR. JUSTICE COUCH.

Plea Side of late late Supreme Court.

19 Cooverjee Premjee *vs.* Daniel Kavanagh.
25 Dorabjee Pestonjee Patell *vs.* Ruttonjee Framjee Wacha.
31 Soorayrumull Sewlall and another *vs.* Pemabhoy Hemabhoy.
33 Gullabhoy Khanbhoy *vs.* Lalljee Hurchand.

J. COMPTON, Prothonotary.

Prothonotary's Office, 25th February 1863.

Equity Side late Supreme Court.

Matters for hearing on this day.

Usman Ukeela *vs.* Unfabaee widow. &c. Exceptions for Argument.
Leeladhur Parpia *vs.* Damother Madowjee, do.
Pitamber Narron & another *vs.* Bhimjee Girdhur, do.
Soondurghur Custoorghur *vs.* Dhoolutghur Munroopghur, Demurrer for Argument.
Khooshall Roychund *vs.* Jugjeevun Roychund, do.

GEO. TAYLOR, Registrar in Equity.

25th Feb. 1863.

THE INDIAN COTTON QUESTION.

(From the Times.)

So long as the source from which England is to derive a supply of cotton for the future continues to be a matter of anxiety and solicitude, a speech by the Minister for India will never fail to attract the most anxious attention of the public. Every day renders it more improbable that the American civil war, let it end when and how it will, will leave the organization of society, and the fabric of industrial enterprise which has been erected upon it, in the same condition as they occupied before the commencement of the war. We have discovered that it was not so much the want of cotton as the incredible over-production of the last few years which has occasioned the present distress in Lancashire; but, although the immediate and urgent importance of the Indian supply has somewhat diminished by this discovery, the question of a permanent supply is more important than ever, because it is becoming daily more manifest that nothing depending on American politics can be relied on either at the present moment or in the remote future. The apprehension so often expressed at the beginning of the war, that those who should attempt to supply the place of Southern cotton would find themselves deprived of the fruit of their labour by some sudden and unforeseen revulsion in American politics, can hardly be said any longer to exist. Cotton we must have, and we must make up our minds to derive it for the future from some source less precarious than the soil of the Southern States.

What, then, has Sir Charles Wood to tell us with regard to our prospect of a supply of Indian Cotton? In this respect, as in most others, the Secretary for India gives an opinion contrary to that expressed by Mr. Laing. Mr. Laing had told us that we must not solace ourselves with the hope that under any circumstances we can obtain a sufficient supply of cotton from India. The climate, he says, is too arid, the temperature too extreme, to encourage hopes of making India ever take the place of America. According to Sir Charles Wood's view, this opinion will very speedily be put to the test. Sir Charles Wood thinks that the question of the growth of cotton in India is simply a question of price,—an opinion which he says he took up ten years ago, and which his subsequent experience has very greatly tended to confirm. He has from time to time made experiments on this subject, by which he has been satisfied that cotton can be grown, that the ryots would cultivate it if they received a remunerative price, and that the prices which ruled while the market of the Southern States was open were not sufficiently remunerative to induce the ryots to grow cotton in preference to other articles of production. These three simple propositions contain the creed of Sir Charles Wood on the subject, and we confess they appear to us pretty nearly to exhaust all that common sense and economical science have to say. Of course, it is easy to go back, after the manner of Mr. Bright, to the history of India for the last 50 years, and to start an hypothesis that, had the Government been managed better, had more been done in the way of roads, bridges, canals, and other public works, and less in the way of fighting battles and annexing provinces, India might have been able to compete successfully with America. It is what no one can prove, and no one can disprove. But we see no reason to think that any policy which England could have adopted in India would have counterbalanced the enormous advantages enjoyed by America in the shape of a virgin soil, a more temperate climate, a shorter sea voyage, Anglo-Saxon energy, and the strength and endurance of the unhappy African race. A high price and a prospect of its continuance are stimulating the efforts of the ryots, so that an instance is recorded in which the cultivator was ploughing up green crop a foot high in order to replace it by cotton. The whole thing is a question of demand,—that is, of the intensity and the permanence of demand. So soon as the price rises to a rate at which there is a reasonable probability that it will continue cotton is grown; when that price is not attained, cotton is replaced by something else which promises to pay better. The claim which has hitherto been put forth on the part of manufacturers has been that somehow or other, by compulsion or by bounties, the Indian Government should induce the ryot to grow a crop which does not pay him in preference to a crop which does. This the Indian Government has steadily refused to do. There is nothing too extravagant to be asked from the Indian Government. It has been required to give a bounty on the exportation of cotton, to subscribe out of the Indian exchequer for the relief of that Manchester distress for which the English exchequer subscribes nothing; and we have seen in the same week the twin apostles of free trade, Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright, the first contending that cotton mills should be free from poor-rates—that is, that the fund to which the distressed operatives must primarily look should be diminished in the very crisis of their fate, for the benefit of the manufacturers; the second, that land in India on which cotton is grown should be relieved from rent—that is, that the Indian Government should be impoverished in order to provide raw materials for English fabrics. The Indian Government appears, according to Sir Charles Wood's statement, to be at this moment employing all the surplus available labour of the country in public works. It is spending somewhere about 12,000,000*l.* sterling a year, and was anxious to have expended more if hands could have been found to execute its designs. Labour, once a drug in India, is rapidly rising in value, and the people are emerging for the first time from that state of hopeless poverty in which they have been pining for ages.

As regards the disposition of waste lands, the explanation of the Secretary for India is that the plan of Lord Canning had two branches,—the one the selling all wild land not already reduced into private property at a low uniform rate; the other, the allowing any person paying rent to the Government to buy up that rent by a payment of twenty times its amount. For the first of these plans Sir Charles Wood has substituted a sale by auction to the highest bidder and a survey before conveyance. This is the plan adopted in most of our colonies, and, though the point is certainly open to argument, has much practical experience in its favour. But it is a matter of small practical importance; the available labour of India is fully occupied with the land already in cultivation, and on the vast public works now in course of execution, and it would be little wisdom on the part of the Government artificially to raise the price of labour against itself, and raise prices against the consumer by drawing off labour to the wild lands, instead of waiting for the time when redundant population will find in them a most convenient outlet. The plan of Lord Canning, for selling the rent due to the Government at 20 years' purchase, was unequal, because lands are assessed at different amounts in different places, and illusory, because such a purchase is in almost every instance quite beyond the means of the cultivator of the soil. For this the Indian Government has substituted a new and careful assessment, and founded on that assessment a permanent settlement—that is, a guarantee from Government that the rent shall never be increased, which, without putting the ryot to a farthing of expence, will give him at once, and without any money passing, a fee simple in the land, subject to a definite claim on the part of the Government. This is probably the greatest boon that could be conferred on the people of India. It gives them security for improvements, and identifies their interest with that of the Government. Upon the whole, we see no reason to complain of the manner in which the present government of India is administered.

THE COLOMBO WRECK.

(From the Times, Jan. 10.)

A SHIPWRECK is an awful thing. It is, perhaps, the thing of all others in the shape of a catastrophe which comes home most naturally to an Englishman's mind. We read of shipwrecks in our earliest youth, and there is this peculiarity about such stories, that they are seldom fictions. On that subject there was no need of invention. The narratives of actual events were numerous enough and startling enough to satisfy any appetite for the marvellous or the terrible, and the minds of young readers became stored with real examples of the sufferings and heroism of their countrymen. It is strange, indeed, to observe how many expressions of every-day use are taken from such scenes as these, and how completely we have been familiarized with all the features and circumstances of a wreck. The ancient type, however, is now almost obsolete, or, at least, has been superseded by one of far greater interest. The "good ship" of the old-fashioned days is now but a common merchantman, patiently labouring through a tedious voyage with a cheap cargo and a small crew. Beyond the fact that she carried so many lives, there was little interest attaching to her. She was caught in a storm and foundered at sea; or she got among breakers, and struck helplessly on a rock, and then the trial began. Perhaps the sailors endured bravely to the end; perhaps, after suffering all that hope and fear was lost, they broke open the spirit room and revelled in its contents with what seemed to be under the circumstances a recognized licence; perhaps they took to the boats, and spent days and nights at sea without food or covering, until the culmination of the horror came in their casting lots for a feast of cannibals. But, however impressive might be the story, it began and finished with the fortunes of the vessel and her crew. The loss of the vessel deranged no great system and expressed no great catastrophe. The crew escaped or perished; the owners or the underwriters suffered, and there was an end.

Contrast, however, with this picture that of the wreck of a great ocean steamer at the present day. She is a miracle of architecture—a prodigy of size, strength, and speed. Her cargo may be worth a million sterling. It is seldom, indeed, less valuable than that of the great galleons which in old times went twice in the year between Spain and the Indies. Her passengers may be reckoned by hundreds, and they constitute a perfect society. So varied, indeed, are its characters and so comprehensive its elements that the assemblage might be taken for a body of citizens going out with all the attributes of the nation found a colony. And the theory that a ship is a portion of the country to which she belongs is here actually and vividly realized. The result is literally a microcosm—a small English world. There are gentlemen and ladies, officers and civilians, wives and daughters, mothers and children. All the amusements and amenities of life are imported into the ship, and cultivated more sedulously than on shore. There are daily banquet and the nightly dance. There are coteries, cliques, customs, and contrivances. The smallness of the society and its terminable character give it features of its own, but render it all the more animated while it lasts. The vessel, in fact, is a large hotel, peopled upon the American scale, and launched upon the waters.

No stories of old times can give any idea of the wreck of a vessel like this. A earthquake would come nearest to it. If that great hotel at Plymouth which took fire this week had been suddenly rent asunder by the opening of the ground on which it stood, the result might have borne some resemblance to the wreck of the Colombo. A few minutes sufficed to render a small colony of English people homeless, houseless, and destitute of almost every necessary. Between the time when they had been as comfortably lodged and as merrily entertained as they would have been at home, and the time when they were shivering on a dreary island in the darkness of a November morning, not half an hour elapsed. All appeared to be lost,—not only home, but clothes, covering, and, perhaps, food. It was a mercy, indeed, that they were cast upon an island accessible and inhabited, and that they could save a few stores from the wreck. Then the work of rescue began. The English nature, men working, and women not weeping but enduring, little children holding out bravely—all doing their best. In course of time they were taken off; but succour had to be fetched by a venture of 300 miles in an open boat, and the disaster was a sad one indeed.

All this while, too, there was another matter. The Colombo carried the mails. Besides her living freight she had 630 boxes of letters representing the interchange of thought and interest between England and her mightiest dependencies. No one can tell what turned on these despatches. In our days the whole world is knit together by correspondence, and the fracture of such a chain is the dislocation of an enormous system. Perhaps we shall never know what has been lost by the loss of the Colombo. There was no such stake as this in the ventures of former times. The salvage was greater, perhaps, than could have been expected, but letters are perishable things and easily destroyed. As to the ship herself, she was broken in halves and left high and dry on shore. A more complete wreck could not be imagined. To the stories of the Tweed and the Malabar that of the Colombo must now be added. We build great ships and we do wonderful things on the great waters, but we do not escape the dangers of the deep.

Wrecks like these are very different from those which we chronicle in an Annual Register. Our great ocean steamers incur perils of their own, but they are manned and handled accordingly, so that the service is comparatively a safe one. The regularity with which the Atlantic is traversed in spite of fogs, icebergs, and tempests is almost incredible, and not the least of our enemies is the fog. The idea of an enormous vessel full of life rushing along at full speed through mist and darkness is something appalling, but time is kept nevertheless, as punctually as possible. It was darkness which destroyed the Colombo, but there the speed had been slackened for caution's sake. There was no fog, but a heavy tropical rain descended in such torrents that could be seen, and when, all of a sudden, the clouds "lifted like a curtain," land was found to be close ahead. Just so a blinding snowstorm proved the ruin of the Violet in the Channel a year or two ago. The view was obscured, lights could not be distinguished, and the packet, tossed by the tempest and helpless in the dark, struck hopelessly on the sands.

Though the ocean service is conducted by these large steamers with admirable ability and extraordinary success, yet the catalogue of disasters is now becoming a long one and when such losses do occur they are terrible. Two vessels—one of them belonging to the Collins line—have gone to the bottom of the Atlantic without leaving a trace behind them. Their fate is only matter of conjecture. They may have struck upon icebergs at full speed and been shivered to pieces; they may have caught fire and been burnt at sea; or they may have been struck by lightning and rent asunder. Perhaps the last hypothesis is not a probable one in the case before us, but it used to be said that until our vessels were furnished with conductors lightning was the most likely of all agents of destruction when ships disappeared without trace or tale. One great steamer was destroyed by fire, one was actually wrecked in harbour, and perhaps the Cunard line is the only line which has escaped its share of such catastrophes. Unfortunately, if such losses are few in number they are awful in magnitude. The greateness of the venture is a characteristic of our modern system. We stake more on a cast than before, and though we lose less frequently we lose more heavily at times. Lives in vast numbers and treasures without end now depend upon this ocean service, for we are bringing India and Australia nearer to England, and it is by these great steamers that the approximation is accomplished and the new connexion maintained. We are constantly devising fresh routes, and spanning with our speculations the map of the globe. There is no chance of our ever returning to the days of small ships and long voyages. Speed is now an indispensable condition of such traffic, and speed can only be attained by large ships and extensive organization. Perhaps we have nearly reached the limit of practicable size, but at any rate our ventures are not likely to diminish. Fine steamers will still be built for rapid passages and put on the most promising routes. As traffic increases and travel becomes more and more familiar we shall have more such vessels as the Colombo, carrying the same freights and running the same risks. Let us hope that science, skill, and prudence may enable us to curtail the dangers of the service.

POONA.

A CASE is under investigation before the City Foujdar for makidg false Copper Coins.—*Observer, Feb.* 24.

WE understand the Acting Judge of Poona has recommended to the High Court to close all the Judicial Courts from the 13th April next, as usual.—*Id.*

WE hear that the resigned clerk of the Small Cause Court, Purrusram Succaram, and the dismissed carcoon who has been bailed, are to be tried on certain charges preferred against them by the Acting Judge of the Small Cause Court.—*Id.*

WE hear that Nurhar Janardhan, Sheristadar of the Judge's Court of Sholapoor, has been reduced all at once to the condition of a Carcoon on the salary of rupees fifteen. We have not heard of the particulars of the cause of his being reduced to such a subordinate situation, but no doubt we shall in due time receive particulars from our fat correspondent.—*Id.*

BENGAL.

COLONEL J. S. Paton, Deputy Quarter Master General of the Army, succeeds Major General A. Becher, C.B., as Quarter Master General of the Army; but there is, we hear, some hesitation about making the other moves in the department, consequent upon the close of General Becher's term of holding office.—*Englishman, Feb.* 17.

ASSISTANT-SURGEON R. Rhind, No. 5 Battery, 24th Brigade, R. A., just arrived at the Presidency from Assam, is under arrest, pending his trial by general court-martial upon charges arising from a too intimate acquaintance with that eminent vintner, Mr. John Exshaw, of Bordeaux. This is another instance in proof that, although a moderate acquaintance with this gentleman is agreeable, and even in some cases beneficial, too great familiarity is sure to lead officers into danger and trouble.—*Id.*

THE

The interesting and impartial chapters on the American War of Independence in Lord Stanhope's 'History of England from the Peace of Utrecht,' afford the following curious illustrations of this subject. The historian in great measure accounts for the inaction of Washington's army in the winter and spring of 1779 by the fearful and wide-spread distress produced among them by the depreciation of their paper money.

"That paper-money had gradually fallen to one-twentieth, to one-thirtieth, nay even in some cases to less than one-hundredth of its nominal value! But perhaps one practical instance may make this case the clearer. In December of this year, and in the State of Maryland, an English officer, one of the Convention troops, received an innkeeper's bill, which in his Travels he has printed at full length, amounting in paper money to £732 and some shillings, and this bill he paid in gold with four guineas and a half! It is plain how grievous, nay almost intolerable, was this depreciation to every man in the public service. Thus writes Washington to a familiar friend:—'Without some new measures what funds can stand the present expenses of the army? And what officers can bear the weight of prices that every necessary article is now got to? A rat in the shape of a horse, is not to be bought at this time for less than £200, nor a saddle under £30 or 40; boots, twenty, and shoes and other articles in the same proportion. How is it possible, therefore, for officers to stand this without an increase of pay; And how is it possible sufficiently to advance their pay when flour is selling at different places from £5 to £15 per cwt., hay from 40 to £60, and beef and other essentials in this proportion?' The depreciation still proceeding, Washington, a few months afterwards, declares that 'a waggon-load of money will now scarcely purchase a waggon-load of provisions!'"

Washington (we again quote the old historian Ramsay) was reduced to the alternative of *disbanding his troops*, or of supplying them by *military force*. He preferred the latter; and the inhabitants of New York and New Jersey, though they felt the injury, saw the necessity and patiently submitted.

"About this time (1780) Congress resolved upon another expedient. This was to issue a new species of paper-money, under the guarantee of the several States. . . . It was hoped by *carrying the ground of credit*, that Congress would gain a repetition of the advantages which resulted from their first paper expedient. But the event proved that *credit is of too delicate a nature to be sported with*, and can only be maintained by honesty, and punctuality."

Congress however (says Lord Stanhope) "put forth a public Address, declaring once more, in the most solemn terms, that their faith was pledged for the ultimate redemption of their bills. Any idea or question to the contrary they treated with disdain." "It is with great regret and reluctance," say they, "that we can prevail upon ourselves to take the least notice of a question which involves in it a doubt so injurious to the dignity of America. . . . A bankrupt faithless *Republic* would be a novelty in the political world. Let it never be said that America had no sooner become independent than she became insolvent."

This address was dated on the 18th September 1779. On the 28th August, 1781, that is to say not quite two years afterwards, that same Congress ordered the Board of War to make a sale of certain cannon and stores in Rhode Island *for specie only*. It was impossible to give a more effectual *coup de grace* to its own paper.

The position we started with is that the arbitrary issue of inconvertible paper by a Government—however occasioned, however stimulated by a legislature—is a financial expedient which precludes the successful adoption of any other safer and more regular financial expedients. Experience has further shown that it is a process which soon breaks down by its own excesses. Credit cannot be forced for any considerable time in any shape; and every successive *forced* issue, in the shape of inconvertible issues made by political authority, accelerates the arrival of that period of utter discredit, and entire collapse—the catastrophe of revolutionary finance in all ages.

American finance at the present day is simply a repetition, on an enlarged scale of American finance during the first War of Independence. It is the finance of Forced Loans in the shape of excessive inconvertible paper issues—the most wasteful and demoralising form borrowing can possibly take—but a form, the unhesitating resort to which, in exact pursuance of the precedent set by the first Congress of the infant Union, goes some way to demonstrate that it is the form which comes readiest to democratic hands. Why it should do so is no great mystery. It enables statesmanship to dispense with credit, and the qualities by which credit is commanded. It enables war-lusting multitudes to wage war without paying taxes. It enables debtors, who borrowed money, or money's worth, to pay in paper rags the same nominal sum, after these rags may have sunk to a tenth, a twentieth, a hundred or five hundredth part of the real value borrowed. Finally, it enables its issuers—debt without limit—to create without finding lenders—to discharge it not to the metallic amount which its notes bore promise to pay, but to that which, in the subsidence of the paper deluge, any public expectation could be supposed to survive that it *would* pay.

These are the *advantages* of a mode of "raising the wind" which alone has been put in effective operation in the American system of war finance. We repeat, however, that the adoption of such a mode must preclude every other expedient, because, it must cut up by the roots that confidence which is the sole basis for normal financial operations. While the monied world see the Federal Congress giving their Finance-Minister power to make fresh issues of inconvertible legal-tender notes to double the amount he asked for—he (apparently in politic provision of the advent of a Democratic Congress with an anticipated hostile majority)—no other form of paper Mr. Chase can show them is likely to find voluntary purchasers. Such a financial sheet-anchor as this unmeasured resort to inconvertible issues may weather the stress of war expenditure if it can—but the usual money-lenders of states are likely to leave the Federal vessel riding at single anchor without risking any of *their* metal to hold her to her moorings. A legislature, which believes itself able to create millions by the hundred by its mere arbitrary *paper fiat*, will be left by the monied world to the unaided exercise of its financial omnipotence.

SIR CHARLES WOOD AND THE MANCHESTER COTTON COMPANY.

(From the Home News, Jan. 26.)

THE following letter has been addressed to some of the morning journals:—

Sir,—Sir Charles Wood, in his speech at Halifax on the 13th January, in answer to a question put to him by one of his audience, made the following statement respecting the Manchester Cotton Company, of which I am chairman:—

1. It is true the Manchester Cotton Company did ask me what was going to be done at Sedashegur. I told them the *Madras Government* intended to make a pier there, and I sent them the despatch of the Madras Government, stating what they were going to do. I admit that there was great delay on the *part of the Madras Government*, which made up its mind that a pier would not be the best thing, and that a wharf would be much better, and *it was made*. 2. With regard to the *roads, they* were constructed in April last, and were *passable*. 3. The company, instead of asking me whether I had heard any further information about the pier, sent out their vessel, and it arrived there before any pier was constructed. 4. They sent it with very inadequate means, and the cargo was landed with the aid of a Government officer, and the means for which were taken from the Government stores. But for the assistance of Government it would have been impossible for them to have landed their stores. 5. They got the land, and the movement occasioned the jealousy of the Bombay manufacturers, who thought they were being unduly favoured, and some quarrels took place among the people. 6. The company were rather precipitate in sending out before things were ready for them, and there was great difficulty in constructing the road, in consequence of the fever which was very prevalent in the district. Sir Charles Wood concluded by reading a letter showing the extent of fever in the district referred to, notwithstanding which over 7000 labourers (7) were on the works; that, but for the sickness three times (8) that number would have been employed, and that for all practical purposes at least *one*, if not two, good roads (9) *would* be open long before the first cart load of the new cotton crop could be expected to arrive.

I will as briefly as possible state the facts of the case, referring to the paragraphs by their numbers, which, together with the italics, I employ for the sake of brevity and convenient reference.

No. 1. On the 3rd April, 1861, the Manchester Cotton Company wrote to Sir Charles Wood, in pursuance of an arrangement that had just previously been made with the Indian Government, as follows:—

The directors will be glad if you will favour them by stating how soon it is probable the pier will be constructed, or whether there is a prospect of its being ready for shipment of the cotton crop of 1862. The directors will despatch cotton presses, machinery, and an iron press-house to the port of Sedashegur in the course of a few weeks, and they wish therefore to urge the desirability of the construction of the pier proceeding simultaneously with the preparations they are now making for opening cotton trade at that port.

On the 12th of April, 1861, Sir Charles Wood replied that:—

The Madras Government in a letter dated the 16th *of May last* (1862), intimated its intention to construct a landing and shipping pier at Sheshegur during the present year, adding that it would be ready in time for the road down the Kygah Ghat leading direct to the harbour.

From this letter it is quite clear that Sir Charles Wood had been fully apprised of the intention of the company to send out a shipload of machinary "*in the course of a few weeks.*" A ship was accordingly freighted and sent out in *ful reliance* upon the statements contained in Sir Charles Wood's reply. Not one word was ever said by Sir Charles Wood implying even a doubt as to whether the pier or the road would be completed by the time of the arrival of the vessel. What then becomes of the charge of "precipitancy" (6)? The attempt is now made by Sir Charles Wood to throw the blame and to fix the responsibility upon *the Madras Government*, and he admits that there was "great delay." He further states that the Madras Government "at last" made up its mind that a pier would not be the best thing, and that a wharf would be much better—*and it was made*. Mr. Haywood, our manager, now in this country, left Sedashegur in June last, after the first ship had been unloaded and declares that no such wharf existed, nor has the Government constructed either pier or wharf up to this hour.

No. 2. The "roads" were *not* constructed in April last, and were consequently *not* passable. The Kygah Ghat road promised to be open "by the end of the year," 1861, was not completed, but a rough jungle bye road was opened, down which the Government engineer brought his baggage carts, for the sake of *saying* it was open. It was such a bye road as no *cotton carts* would ever traverse—except compelled to do so under coercion.

No. 3. It will be seen from what I have stated that the company, which as yet had no reason to doubt the faith of a Government promise, would never think of asking for "further information about the pier," having already told the Government that its first vessel would be despatched "*in a few weeks.*"

No. 4. In the absence of the promised pier Mr. Haywood applied for and obtained the assistance of a Government officer, with permission to make use of certain Government stores, which at the time were lying useless, some of which were restored and the rest purchased, in order to meet the emergency of the ship arriving, with nothing but a barren rock for a loading place on the opposite side of the bay, half a mile from the spot where the pier ought to have been constructed. With the exception of one rope which was procured from the Government stores, every requisite that could be foreseen was provided by the company, and six Ethiopean workmen also were sent out in our ship.

It cannot be denied, that in the circumstances I have described the company had a just right even to *demand* the assistance of Government officers. The merit claimed by Sir Charles Wood amounts therefore to very little.

No. 5. The company "got the land," but by no help of the Government. The land was private property, and was obtained on lease without Government assistance or intervention. The Bombay "manufacturers," or rather merchants, were not jealous that "we got the land," but were highly delighted and misled in the papers, to the effect "that large grants of waste land were being given to the company by Sir Charles Wood, to conciliate the favour of Manchester." Sir Charles Wood knows that such rumours had no foundation in fact.

No. 6. The bugbear of "fever" is a staple excuse of Government officers in India. It is well known that the wretched coolies who work upon these lines would suffer but little from fever if reasonable care were taken. They are brought often from great distances to labour upon the Ghats, where they have no shelter provided for them but such as they can extemporise out of poles and the leaves of the palm or cocoa-nut tree. They work hard, sweating through the day, and at night are exposed in these flimsy huts to the severity of the cutting *land wind*, which will paralyse a horse if exposed to it at night. The result, is frightful fever, and the coolies "run away" from their inhuman taskmasters. It is also well known that they are systematically robbed of a good portion of their miserable earnings, and are often cuffed and cursed—such is the system. It is no matter of surprise that (8) three times the number "would have been employed" if the Government could persuade them to enter such a service. Is it any wonder that the Government finds such labour *scarce* in India? I have stated the rule in India; there are, no doubt, some exceptions.

No. 7. The company's agent at Sedashegur states that he is told there were not more than 1500 coolies at work on the Kygah Ghat at the time when Sir Charles Wood's informant (a Government officer) states there were 7000. A correspondent of the 'Times of India,' at Honore, 70 miles south of Sedashegur, writes (1st December) last) that

Mr. Powell, the special assistant engineer, who was sent to Coondapoor to recruit coolies there (for the work mentioned by Sir Charles Wood), is having *every difficulty in his way* by the *magisterial* of South Canara. The revenue authorities are forbidden to aid him in any way. The coolies receive their advances and sign their contracts readily enough, but having obtained the money, they show no desire to move and the contracts are worth little more than so much waste paper. Should he wish to prosecute any for breach of contract, he must send them to Mangalore for trial; and on the first information of such a proceeding, the coolies who had obtained advances would run over the border into the Mysore territory.

This picture of warfare among the Government officials, of the value of money contracts, and of the dread of the coolies of Government employment, reveals a state of anarchy and confusion in the management of Indian affairs sufficient to induce the Government to conceal rather than to thrown light upon *things as they are* in India. If Sir Charles Wood *knows* of their existence, he studiously conceals them. If he is ignorant of them, he ought not to be.

No. 9. Sir Charles Wood's correspondent of December *now* states that "that for all practical purposes one, if not two, good roads *will be open* long before the first cart-load of the new cotton crop could be expected to arrive." Sir Chas. Wood (2) states that *one road* was passable in April last. His correspondent, by implication, denies this statement. Can we believe either the one statement or, the other? As to whether the new cotton could be "expected" to arrive, this is a purely suggestive hypothesis, dependent altogether upon the faith of the merchant as to any road being open at all this season.

Pending the delays of Government, the company has been compelled to build, with its own men and money, a pier on its own account, and also a tramway three to four hundred yards in length, in order to have the means of reloading its machinery again when sent out, and to unload a second vessel with a cargo of machinery they have sent out, and which arrived six weeks ago. The time and labour bestowed upon these works, had the road and pier been ready as promised by Government, would have been employed in getting the company's cotton-cleaning and pressing establishments into working order, both in the interior and at the new port.

Had the road to the interior been ready, this valuable machinery, which has for many months lain useless at Sedashegur, might long since have been in active operation.

The company's manager at Sedashegur is a gentleman of great Indian experience, speaks the native languages, besides whom we have there is an engineer, accountant, and five first-class European mechanics.

No proper road yet exists round the bay, connecting the company's works with the interior, and the company has had actually to construct a small bridge (which ought to have been constructed by the Government engineers) across a river, in order that its servants might have communication with their own residences. The bridges has been used by the public, and hundreds of Government coolies pass over it every day.

I trust that in the interests of truth and fair play you will give insertion to this long letter, exposing as it does grave errors and misrepresentations.—I am, &c.,

HUGH MASON.

Manchester, Jan. 24.

NEW YEAR'S DAY IN SCOTLAND.

(From the London Review, Jan. 3.)

SCOTLAND owes much to her long connection with France. She has thereby enriched her vocabulary with many useful and expressive words unknown to English ears, and she has acquired a certain comprehension—though dim and inadequate—of the art of cookery, to which the native John Bull is utterly a stranger; and she has derived from the same source a peculiar reverence for the first day of the year. England, indeed, observes, or rather did long ago observe the New Year after a fashion; and after the fashion which has always been recognised as orthodox—namely, the drinking of healths and the giving of presents. The wassail-bowl—which took its name, we are told, from the Saxon "Wass-hael," "to your health," was a recognized part of the merry-makings of New Year's Eve in Saxon England. In monasteries and religious houses this convivial custom was kept up with especial zeal. Poor people were in the habit of carrying about a bowl crowned with ribbons, and begging the wherewithal to fill it, and some of the old songs or chaunts in which they were wont to prefer their requests exist at the present day. The custom of making New Year's gifts was observed not less religiously in the olden time. As might be supposed, such gifts were made with peculiar frequency to superiors in station, and often to those; on the throne indeed, some unusually ingenious kings of the Plantagenet race are said to have utilized this graceful usage as a means of taxation. Both these forms, however, of celebrating New Year's Day have fallen into disuse, and the First of January receives but little honour south of the Tweed. Speaking generally, we may say that in England Christmas is held, while New Year's Day is neglected; and that in Scotland the claims to Christmas are disregarded, while New Year's Day is the most festive time of the year.

Christmas in Scotland, like New Year's Day in England, seems to have been duly honoured in days gone by. It was known by the name of Yule—the old Scandinavian season of rejoicing—on which the early missionaries had, in accordance with their constant habit with regard both to observances and legends, engrafted the festival of the nativity.

The English New Year's Day appears to have worn out gradually and without cause, but the Scotch Christmas yielded only to direct attack. The custom of its observance, like many things of more evil influence, disappeared before the Reformation. The Presbyterian clergy exerted themselves vehemently to put a stop to it. They considered it a rag of Popery, or of Prelacy, which was worse, and they were determined to put it down. For more than a hundred years it was a grievous ecclesiastical offence for a Scotch householder to cook a better dinner than usual on Christmas Day. At the present time Scotch people can be found who will gravely urge as a proof of the "unscripturalness" of the English Church, the sacred nature of the services which she has set apart for Christmas. This violent and long-continued crusade was entirely successful. In some of the northern districts of Scotland, where Episcopacy has always lingered, Christmas is still held in reverence. But, as a rule, the great festival of the Scottish nation is New Year's Day.

This, as we have said before, was probably taken from France; but the more peculiar features of the French New Year's Day are hardly discernible in the North. There is little in Scotland of the elaborate interchange of visits and of gifts, which marks *le jour d'étrennes* in Paris. Indeed, so far as there is present giving in Scotland at all, it occurs not on the first day of the year, but on the last; and it is rather of a limited nature, consisting mainly in donations to poor children of cakes and good things to eat. The last day of the year is called Hogmanay, and it was, and in the more retired districts still is, the custom for children of the poorer classes to go from house to house chanting old cries with a begging signification, in return for which they are presented with cheese and oaten-cakes. Mr. Chambers, in his "Popular Rhymes of Scotland," gives several of these cries, of which the most mysterious, perhaps, is—

Hogmanay
Trollolay
Give us of your white bread, and none of your grey!

The last line seems to indicate a natural, though unnational, preference for wheaten bread over oat-cakes; but the meaning of the word hogmanay has never, we believe, been ascertained. Jamieson in his dictionary gives it up; and the ingenious suggestion that it is derived from "au gui menez"—"to the mistletoe go,"—can hardly be received as conclusive. The combination "trollolay" is beyond the reach even of a suggestion. On the same day, and also on New Year's Day, the *guizards*, or masquers, wander from door to door. They are something like the old Christmas mummers in England. Some half-dozen boys array themselves in straw attire, and, content with the ball or the kitchen as a stage, recite old songs, or, fired with a more vaulting ambition, go through a regular drama, called "Galatian," the plot of which consists in various stalwart knights fighting to the death, the victims, however being carefully restored to life at the end of the play, when a few pence are considered a sufficient acknowledgment of this brilliant entertainment. This custom held its ground until very lately, even in large towns.

Perhaps the most peculiar to Scotland than either the gift of hogmanay or the dramatic efforts of the *guizards*, was the custom of first-footing. As the last night of the old year was waning, a "hot-pint," as it was called, would be prepared,—a villainous composition consisting of warm ale, whisky, spices, and sugar. When the clock struck twelve, a general hand-shaking and wishing of "happy New Year!" took place, after which the males of the household sallied forth, armed with the said hot-pint and heterogeneous cakes and buns, visiting all their acquaintance, renewing the drinking and the expressions of good wishes at every house, and perfectly willing to interchange similar courtesies with any party they might meet bent on the same errand as themselves. The object, was to be the first to enter a neighbour's dwelling on the New Year; and hence the origin of the name. This custom was at one time universal throughout Scotland, and prevailed even in towns within the memory of those still living. It is said that some fifty years ago the streets of Edinburgh between twelve and one o'clock on the first morning of the year were crowded as at midday. Now it has fallen altogether into desuetude, the only remnant of it being that, among people of the old school, any valued friend receives a welcome even more hearty than usual, should he chance to be the first visitor, or the "first foot" in the house on New Year's Day.

In fact all these things are passing away, and there remains little in Scotland to distinguish the first of January from any other day in the year, save a tendency on the part of the middle classes to parade the streets gorgeously apparelled, and among the lower classes a general aptitude to get drunk. Neither of these "proclivities" are worth cultivating. The sight of men and women marching up and down streets of towns, marks of painful effort about hilarity plainly visible on their faces cannot surely be exhilarating. None of the Anglo-Saxon race were intended by Providence to indulge in out-of-door frivolities. And it cannot be considered a very creditable thing for a country that the labouring-classes generally devote the second and third days of the year to recovering from the too joyous festivities of the first. This latter evil, however, is perhaps not to be laid to duty in molesting the Caledonian, as he is a subject not easy to speak with confidence, but many well-qualified to judge appear to entertain good hopes that in Scotland drunkenness at new year's time, and at all other times, will speedily share the fate of the less exotic but more innocent representation of the *quizards*.

It is observable that the observance of Christmas is gaining ground in Scotland, especially in the towns, and among the upper classes. This is probably in some way connected with the spread of Episcopacy, which has, within the last few years, become *comme il faut* north of the Tweed. But, whatever be the cause, the fact is certain. Churches are attended; houses are decked with holly; Christmas-trees are adorned for the delectation of children; the very dinners have conformed to Anglican types. Justifying in fact, not unfrequently, the arrangements would meet with, if not approval even of Mr. Dickens. We trust we are not unduly influenced by national prejudice in thinking that this change is for the better. Cheerfulness and goodwill to all men are surely appropriate to Christmas-tide. But at epochs which merely mark the flight of time, while the good will is not less beseeming, the cheerfulness does not seem to us to be. We do not say that such periods should be neglected—quite the contrary; but we do say that they are not the fit occasions for uproarious hilarity. We may wish our friends a happy New Year as we wish them a good morning; many thoughts may occur, not such as we idly speak or communicate to any ordinary acquaintance; but these are not thoughts which tend to cheerfulness only, nor can any man of sense, over thirty, feel nothing beyond an inclination to be jolly when he finds himself impressed upon him that another year out of his three score and ten has passed away. "Of all sounds of all bells," say Charles Lamb, "most solemn and touching is the peal which rings out the year. I never hear it without a gathering up of my mind to a concentration of all the images that have been diffused over the last twelvemonth; all I have done or suffered, performed or neglected, in that regretted time. I begin to know its worth as when a person dies. It takes a personal colour; nor was it a poetical flight in a contemporary when he exclaimed—

'I saw the skirts of the departing year.'"

Surely Elia here expresses the truth; and if such are the feelings with which we ought to regard the close of the old year, it cannot be that spending more or less drunk is the appropriate welcome of the new.

THH CAPTURE OF THE ARIEL BY THE ALABAMA.

((From the New York Times.))

PANAMA, TUESDAY, DEC. 16, 1862.

THE principal topic of interest among us for the past few days, as you may well imagine, has been the boarding and robbery of the Ariel by the Confederate steamer "290," or Alabama. It is probable before this you have had the main facts, as what I may write can be placed under the head of "further particulars." My facts I get from Captain Sartori and Captain Jones. On Sunday, the 7th inst., at 2 p.m., just as the passengers in the first cabin had sat down to dinner, a report was brought to Captain Jones of "steam warship in sight." No alarm was created by this announcement. Captain Jones excusing himself to his dinner companions said he would see what she was like. On ascending to the deck the vessel was about four miles off, under Captains, and was just coming out of the sun glare. She had an American flag flying, but Captain Jones exclaimed, "If that isn't an English rig you may shoot me." He ordered his engineer to put on all steam, thinking to run away from the suspected vessel. He soon saw that the bark was rapidly overhauling him, and in a few minutes she fired a blank shot. Captain Jones p li no attention, but kept on his way. A moment after, the bark hoisted the Confederate flag, and bang! bang! two shells passed over the Ariel. One was an hundred-pound steel pointed missile, which explodes immediately on striking the object, but this shell fortunately passed over the vessel without touching her. The other a round common fuse shell, struck the foremast above the hurricane deck, cutting nearly its size from the mast. In the meantime the 140 officers and mariners on board, under Major Garland, had been drawn up on the deck of the Ariel, with their arms, prepared for resistance. But the character of the craft having been fully ascertained, and the futility of defence being clearly apparent, notwithstanding the remonstrances of Captain Jones who wanted to fight, and who declared he would never lower his flag so long as he could fight, the marines were disarmed and ordered below. Then the Stars and Stripes came down, and the Ariel surrendered. At this time the Ariel was going about 8½ knots, fast for her, and the Alabama 11 knots, without sail, and only under 111bs. of steam—so says Captain Jones. Her firemen had been banked, and less than an hour before the Ariel hauled down her flag she had started them up. Captain Semmes told Captain Jones that under 171bs. of steam he had made 13½ knots, but had never worked his steam up any higher, as he never had occasion to do so. He said he could make 15 knots under steam. By 3 p.m. a boat from the Alabama, with 12 men, under the command of Lieutenent Low, a young Georgian, the men armed with pistols and cutlasses, was alongside. At this time, the consternation and fright among the passengers, particularly among the women, was indescribable. The least many of them expected was to be robbed and then have their throats cut. The more prudent had hidden away their money, watches, and jewellery the best way they could, and the more cunning had passed their personal articles of value into the hands of British and French passengers. Many who had sworn allegiance to Uncle Samuel, and who had eaten his salt for 20 years, suddenly forgot to aspirate their h's, and not one of the "Jeme" could speak English. As Lieutenant Low, in his neat uniform and bland smiling face, stepped on deck, and politely lifted his cap, the fears began to slightly subside. The first thing he did was to assure the passengers that not a hair of their heads should be plucked out, and not a dollar of personal property taken. Observing that there were United States' officers and marines on board, Lieutenant Low communicated with Captain Semmes and the latter ordered that Captain Jones should come on board the Alabama. When Lieutenant Low returned he paroled all the officers and marines, the conditions being that they "should not serve the United States in any manner during the war." To a question of Captain Sartori, as to whether this prevented the marines and soldiers from serving in the forts of California, to which most of them were destined he replied, 'Yes; you are to do no service of any kind for your Government." Lieutenant Low called for the manifests, and finding some money on them, took possession of $8 000 in Treasury notes, belonging to Messrs. Wells Fargo, and Co., and $1,500 in silver for Nicaragua, belonging to Mr. Peyton Middleton, late United States' Special Inspector of Customs in Panama, and to his American partner in Nicaragua, Mr. E. S. Lane. Being assured by Purser Wheeler that the Ariel had no letter mail he did not overhaul the sacks, and in fact nothing in that line was disturbed. Wells Fargo, and Co.'s sacks, the private sacks of the Panama Railroad Company, the South and Central American and Panama mails and even the State Department sacks for the United States' Consul at Aspinwall, containing his own correspondence and that for other consuls, ministers, and naval officers, came safely to hand. Lieutenant Low ordered all the officers to give up their swords, and all the soldiers and marines their arms, and these were taken on board the Alabama. He compelled Captain Jones to bond the ship for $125 000, the cargo for $123 000, and freight for $12,000, to be paid within 30 days after the establishment of the Independence of the Confederate States. The Lieutenant, before he left, ordered all the sails of the Ariel to be cut away and thrown overboard, but no other property was damaged or destroyed, save the liquors of the ship, and not a dollar's worth was taken out of her, except the money. The liquors were destroyed by request of Captain Sartori and Major Garland, as a precaution against their own men, who they feared might get at them in the confusion, and become unmanageable, now that their officers were disarmed. The heads of the whisky barrels were broken in, and the liquors in the bar thrown overboard. In this connexion it may not be amiss to say that Captain Semmes complained bitterly to Captain Jones of the false reports he averred had been made by the commanders of some of the sailing vessel he had taken, particularly of the master of the Lamplighter, who reported that the first thing the officers and sailors demanded on boarding him was liquor. He said that but a drop of liquor was used by his men on that ship, but that it was destroyed, immediately she was boarded, for fear his men might get at it and make brutes of themselves. Lieutenant Low ordered the Ariel to keep company with the Alabama, and both ships steamed toward Jamaica. At night he again visited the Ariel, and took away with him one of her steam-valves, so as to temporarily disable to engine. Of course, the Ariel drifted about (it was calm weather), and the Alabama left her to look for other prey. Captain Jones was informed by Captain Semmes that his passengers would be landed at a point on San Domingo which has only a few huts, and is at a great distance from supplies. To this Captain Jones earnestly remonstrated. "Perish sake, Captain Semmes, don't leave me and them there!" exclaimed Captain Jones "What, in Heaven's name are 850 persons—a third of them women and children to live on there?" He then said he would land them in Jamaica, for he was determined to burn the ship. He said Vanderbilt had given one of the finest steamer's in the world to the Government with which to run him down, and he would destroy everything of his he fell in with. The next day, Monday, the valve was restored, and the Ariel ordered to keep company as before. 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The United States' Consul at Kingston, Captain Sartori wrote to the mayor, telling him it was very important the letter should be despatched at once, and he has no doubt the consul got the paper by 12 o'clock same day. Neither the pilot or the mayor were informed of the contents of the letter, or of the occurrences here detailed. If the consul is not afraid of taking responsibilities, as he should not be, in such important matters, he chartered a vessel, and a steam one, if possible, to take the news to Santiago de Cuba, a short distance, from which there is a telegraph to Havana, and where there may have been some United States' war-steamers. All the officers and passengers I have talked with say that Lieutenant Low acted in the most gentlemanly, and even courteous manner, and Captain Jones says the same of Captain Semmes. In fact, all the folks here appear highly pleased with the treatment and enchanted by Lieutenant Low. He soothed the ladies, patted the children on the head, kissed the ugliest-looking as well as the prettiest babies, and made himself generally agreeable. He told Captain Sartori he did only his duty in molesting the Ariel, and he remarked, "You, Captain Sartori, would do the same thing were your country treated so outrageously as mine has been." He allowed Captain Startori to keep a favourite fowling-piece he had with him, and did many other things to conciliate the feelings of those he arrested. Captain Semmes is a gentleman, is courteous, is smart, are courteous. Had the hundred-pound shell gone through the Ariel, the passengers, what there would have been left of them, would have thought differently of their captor. Captain Semmes, in his conversation with Captain Jones, talked a good deal about the Pacific, and new all about our ships-of-war there. Captain Jones thinks that when the West Indies gets too hot for him, he will turn up in our waters here, but I think not. He might make a raid upon our whalers, for he has a particular's antipathy to the New England men—but the facilities for such business as his are much less on the Pacific than on the Atlantic. The thing that seemed to trouble him most was the impossibility of his burning Vanderbilt's ship, which he could not do on account of her passengers. The fact is he has'nt won an elephant in a raffle. He could not drop them down in any desert place, and he knew he could not land them in Kingston, or in the port of any powerful nation. Captain Semmes told Captain Jones that he could just as well as not say that such periods should be neglected—quite the contrary; but we do say that they are not the fit occasions for uproarious hilarity. We may wish our friends a happy New Year as we wish them a good morning; many thoughts may occur, not such as we idly speak or communicate to any ordinary acquaintance; but these are not thoughts which tend to cheerfulness only, nor can any man of sense, over thirty, feel nothing beyond an inclination to be jolly when he finds himself impressed upon him that another year out of his three score and ten has passed away. "Of all sounds of all bells," say Charles Lamb, "most solemn and touching is the peal which rings out the year. I never hear it without a gathering up of my mind to a concentration of all the images that have been diffused over the last twelvemonth; all I have done or suffered, performed or neglected, in that regretted time. I begin to know its worth as when a person dies. It takes a personal colour; nor was it a poetical flight in a contemporary when he exclaimed—

'I saw the skirts of the departing year.'"

Surely Elia here expresses the truth; and if such are the feelings with which we ought to regard the close of the old year, it cannot be that spending more or less drunk is the appropriate welcome of the new.

THH CAPTURE OF THE ARIEL BY THE ALABAMA.

((From the New York Times.))

PANAMA, TUESDAY, DEC. 16, 1862.

THE principal topic of interest among us for the past few days, as you may well imagine, has been the boarding and robbery of the Ariel by the Confederate steamer "290," or Alabama. It is probable before this you have had the main facts, as what I may write can be placed under the head of "further particulars." My facts I get from Captain Sartori and Captain Jones. On Sunday, the 7th inst., at 2 p.m., just as the passengers in the first cabin had sat down to dinner, a report was brought to Captain Jones of "steam warship in sight." No alarm was created by this announcement. Captain Jones excusing himself to his dinner companions said he would see what she was like. On ascending to the deck the vessel was about four miles off, under Captains, and was just coming out of the sun glare. She had an American flag flying, but Captain Jones exclaimed, "If that isn't an English rig you may shoot me." He ordered his engineer to put on all steam, thinking to run away from the suspected vessel. He soon saw that the bark was rapidly overhauling him, and in a few minutes she fired a blank shot. Captain Jones p li no attention, but kept on his way. A moment after, the bark hoisted the Confederate flag, and bang! bang! two shells passed over the Ariel. One was an hundred-pound steel pointed missile, which explodes immediately on striking the object, but this shell fortunately passed over the vessel without touching her. The other a round common fuse shell, struck the foremast above the hurricane deck, cutting nearly its size from the mast. In the meantime the 140 officers and mariners on board, under Major Garland, had been drawn up on the deck of the Ariel, with their arms, prepared for resistance. But the character of the craft having been fully ascertained, and the futility of defence being clearly apparent, notwithstanding the remonstrances of Captain Jones who wanted to fight, and who declared he would never lower his flag so long as he could fight, the marines were disarmed and ordered below. Then the Stars and Stripes came down, and the Ariel surrendered. At this time the Ariel was going about 8½ knots, fast for her, and the Alabama 11 knots, without sail, and only under 111bs. of steam—so says Captain Jones. Her firemen had been banked, and less than an hour before the Ariel hauled down her flag she had started them up. Captain Semmes told Captain Jones that under 171bs. of steam he had made 13½ knots, but had never worked his steam up any higher, as he never had occasion to do so. He said he could make 15 knots under steam. By 3 p.m. a boat from the Alabama, with 12 men, under the command of Lieutenent Low, a young Georgian, the men armed with pistols and cutlasses, was alongside. At this time, the consternation and fright among the passengers, particularly among the women, was indescribable. The least many of them expected was to be robbed and then have their throats cut. The more prudent had hidden away their money, watches, and jewellery the best way they could, and the more cunning had passed their personal articles of value into the hands of British and French passengers. Many who had sworn allegiance to Uncle Samuel, and who had eaten his salt for 20 years, suddenly forgot to aspirate their h's, and not one of the "Jeme" could speak English. As Lieutenant Low, in his neat uniform and bland smiling face, stepped on deck, and politely lifted his cap, the fears began to slightly subside. The first thing he did was to assure the passengers that not a hair of their heads should be plucked out, and not a dollar of personal property taken. Observing that there were United States' officers and marines on board, Lieutenant Low communicated with Captain Semmes and the latter ordered that Captain Jones should come on board the Alabama. When Lieutenant Low returned he paroled all the officers and marines, the conditions being that they "should not serve the United States in any manner during the war." To a question of Captain Sartori, as to whether this prevented the marines and soldiers from serving in the forts of California, to which most of them were destined he replied, 'Yes; you are to do no service of any kind for your Government." Lieutenant Low called for the manifests, and finding some money on them, took possession of $8 000 in Treasury notes, belonging to Messrs. Wells Fargo, and Co., and $1,500 in silver for Nicaragua, belonging to Mr. Peyton Middleton, late United States' Special Inspector of Customs in Panama, and to his American partner in Nicaragua, Mr. E. S. Lane. Being assured by Purser Wheeler that the Ariel had no letter mail he did not overhaul the sacks, and in fact nothing in that line was disturbed. Wells Fargo, and Co.'s sacks, the private sacks of the Panama Railroad Company, the South and Central American and Panama mails and even the State Department sacks for the United States' Consul at Aspinwall, containing his own correspondence and that for other consuls, ministers, and naval officers, came safely to hand. Lieutenant Low ordered all the officers to give up their swords, and all the soldiers and marines their arms, and these were taken on board the Alabama. He compelled Captain Jones to bond the ship for $125 000, the cargo for $123 000, and freight for $12,000, to be paid within 30 days after the establishment of the Independence of the Confederate States. The Lieutenant, before he left, ordered all the sails of the Ariel to be cut away and thrown overboard, but no other property was damaged or destroyed, save the liquors of the ship, and not a dollar's worth was taken out of her, except the money. The liquors were destroyed by request of Captain Sartori and Major Garland, as a precaution against their own men, who they feared might get at them in the confusion, and become unmanageable, now that their officers were disarmed. The heads of the whisky barrels were broken in, and the liquors in the bar thrown overboard. 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